WWE MAGAZINE
FREE INSIDE!
The Undertaker & WWE 2K15 Wallpapers!
SUPERSTAR FAMILY SECRETS!
Pg. 58
PLUS!
John Cena, The Miz
Sheamus, Paige
Fandango
Cesaro
AND MORE!
WWE 2K15 SUPERSTAR PANEL!
REIGNS
ROLLINS
AMBROSE
WHO WILL BE THE NEXT CHAMPION?
EXCLUSIVE: NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN PHOTOS FROM THE WWE MAGAZINE ARCHIVE!

THE LATEST WWE PPVs

MONEY IN THE BANK 2014

BATTLEGROUND 2014

DVD & BLU-RAY OUT NOW!

WWE HOME VIDEO

FREMANTLEMEDIA INTERNATIONAL

ALL WWE BLU-RAYS CONTAIN AT LEAST 70 MINS OF EXCLUSIVE EXTRAS!

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OCTOBER 2014

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ID STATEMENT *WWE magazine* is published every month, 12 times a year by Loaded Media Ltd, 23 Lyon Road, Hersham, Surrey, KT12 3PU.

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Photography by **JASON TANAKA BLANEY**

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GOODBYE! *WWE Magazine* 1983-2014

Dear Readers,
The rumours are unfortunately true. What you're holding right now is the last issue of *WWE Magazine* in it's current format (although we'd like to think of it as the "Ultimate Issue"). Thirty-one-plus years is an exceptionally good run for any title. In these last few years, we strived to deliver something different, something that really celebrated how awesome wrestling can be. If you ever picked up an issue of *WWE Magazine* and you were entertained by something (anything) you read, then we did our job. We always wanted to make a mag fans would love because—in the end—we were fans, too. Thank you to the readers of any era of this publication. We hope you enjoyed reading this as much as we enjoyed making it.

Our favourite part of working at *WWE Magazine* was always going backstage to pull off an overwhelming amount of photoshoots in a short period of time. The WWE road crew is really like a family and we were the cousins who came to visit every so often during the year. Despite the challenges of monumental shot lists and cramped spaces, we always rose to the occasion to produce the best work we could. To anyone from the backstage crew who ever supplied us power, fed us, tracked down talent for us, turned off the arena lights, cleared the ring or any of the other seemingly infinite things we asked for, we thank you so much.We were so inspired by your brotherhood/sisterhood. You are road warriors one and all.

We'd also like to extend an extra-special thanks to Triple H and the entire McMahon family for giving us this opportunity to work on this special project.

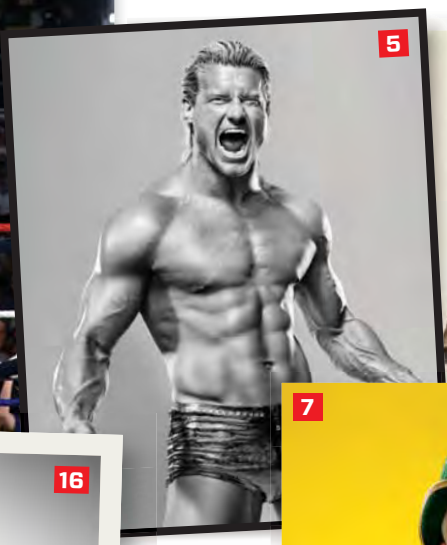
In the end, though, *WWE Magazine* could not have existed without one thing: the talent. Without the Superstars and Divas, we wouldn't have a publication. All these men and women work hard and sacrifice for their careers and their craft. There is no line of work that comes close to what they do. For that, they will forever have our respect. We had the pleasure of working with nearly everyone in this business, but there are a select handful of ladies and gents that we'd like to single out because of the time and effort they've given to us over the years. The following individuals were always there for us when we needed them so we're going to say thank you to them...in alphabetical order so no one's feelings get hurt!

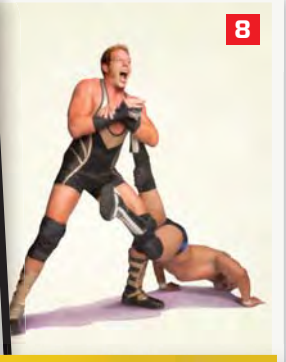
1. Alicia Fox For making each photoshoot an adventure. Wish we could show all the outtakes. **2. Bad News Barrett** For his excellent taste in music and for having our favourite voice to imitate. **3. Cesaro** For being the textbook definition of what a man should be—cultured, thoughtful, polite, a world citizen...and totally ripped. **4. Curtis Axel** For taking Fantasy Football so seriously and making some of the best faces we've seen in any photographs. **5. Dolph Ziggler** For all the banter. For speaking your mind...and always backing it up. And for actually being a downright decent human being. **6. Fandango** For his sense of humour and being the only person who could possibly pull that character off and do it so well. **7. Hornswoggle** For giving us so much of his time and always offering his help whenever we needed it and through whatever we asked him to do. **8. Jack Swagger** For his amazing haircuts and for being "Big Hoss." **9. John Cena** For appearing on so many kick-ass covers over the years. **10. Kofi Kingston** For being the "Iron Man" of *WWE Magazine* shoots: We're pretty sure we shot him every single time we went backstage. **11. Natalya** For her sincerity and un-ending gratefulness. A little thanks goes a long, long way! **12. Rey Mysterio** For his generosity. No bigger star was more respectful, thankful and appreciative to us. **13. Stardust** For his patience and perserverance. We couldn't keep the long-standing 16-month promise, but we tried our best! **14. Sheamus** For being a man of his word and for his honesty. **15. The Miz** For his mouth! A truly worthy adversary who has time and again proved that hard work and dedication can and will pay off. **16. William Regal** For his trust and his tutelage. For every story and every rotten joke. For being the Master Villain and a true gentleman. William, it was really something. **17. Zack Ryder** For proving everyone wrong and for being the guy who we rooted for the hardest. Thanks, Broski!

Wish we could say, "See you next month!" so instead we'll just say thank you. And to steal a quote from Edge, "It was an honour."

Sincerely,
John Mihaly

Editor-In-Chief Digital
and Print Publications
WWE Magazine





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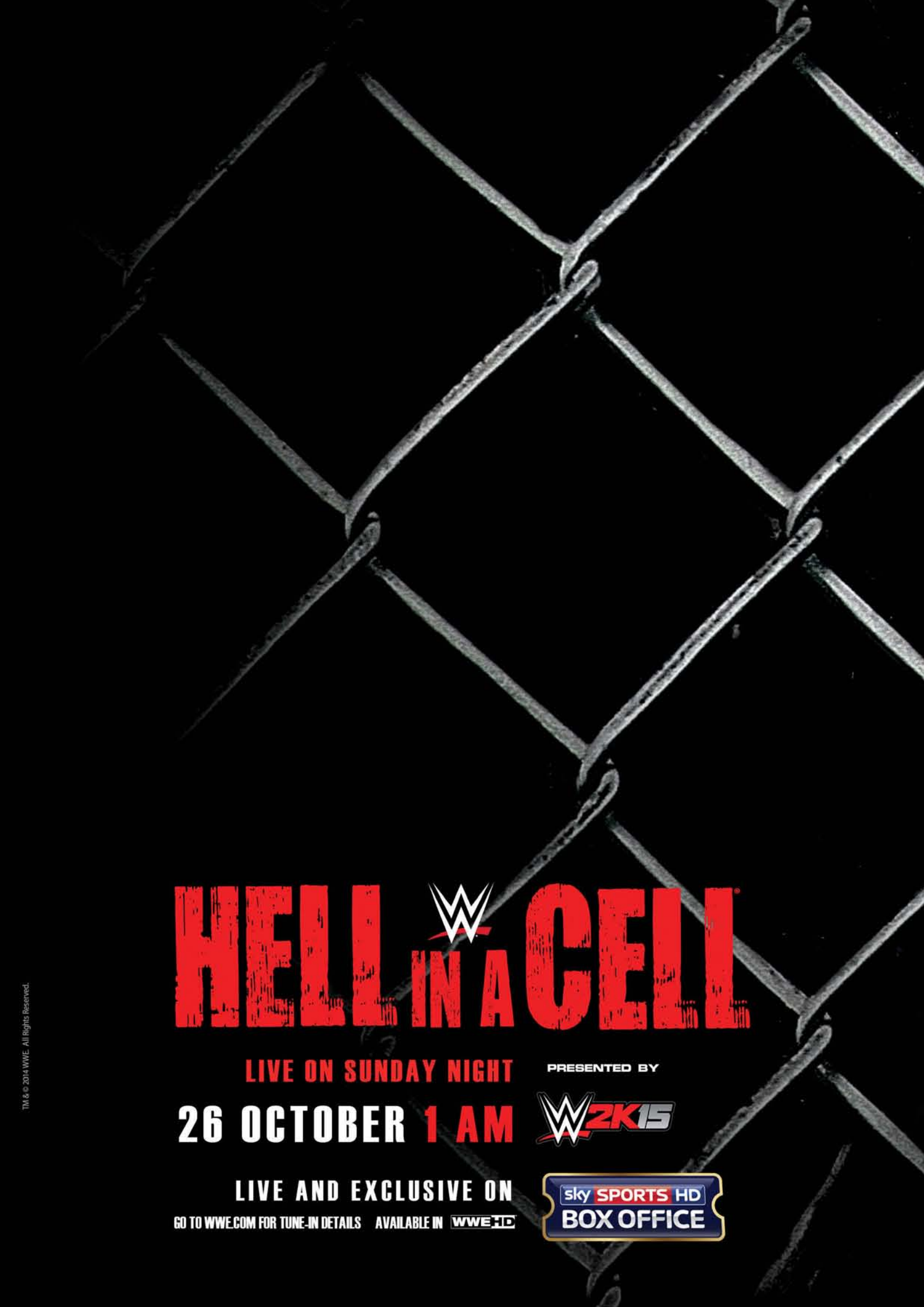
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ROMAN REIGNS®

BIG SPLASH

World Domination

Maishima Arena

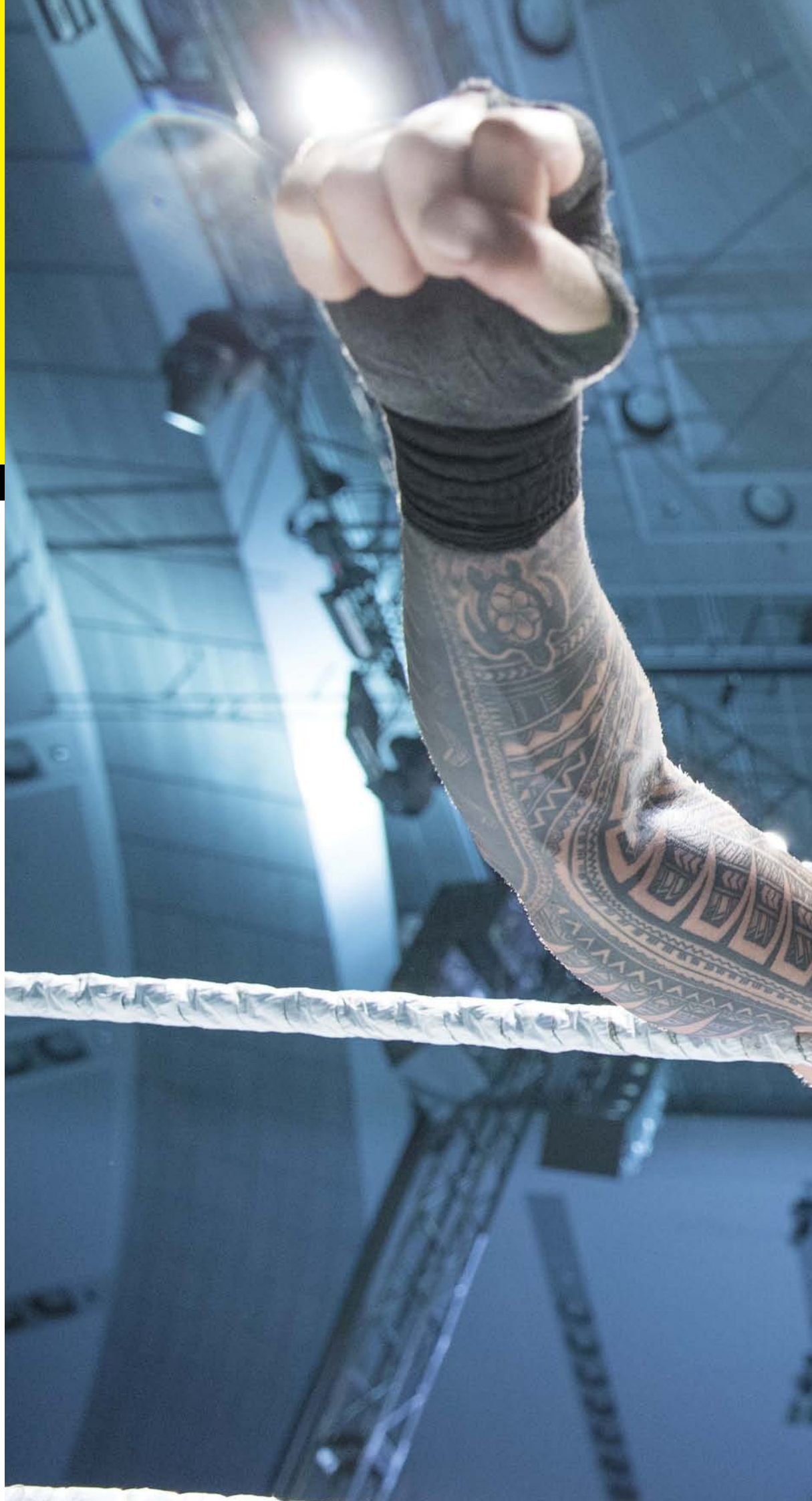
Date: 12.7.14

Location:
Osaka, Japan

WITHOUT FEAR IN JAPAN

From the deadly Antonio Inoki to the terrifying Great Muta, Japan boasts a rich wrestling history. And no matter the size—whether it's Giant Baba or Taka Michinoku—the competitors have to be tough, which Roman Reigns showcased on tour in the Land of the Rising Sun.

Photography by
HEATHER McLAUGHLIN



BIG SPLASH

Faction

BATTLE ROYALS GALORE!

It's official: 2014 is the year of the Battle Royal. The Authority scheduled the stipulation seven times this year for a variety of prizes, from No. 1 Contenderships (won by Roman Reigns, Batista and Tamina) to actual championships (The Miz, Sheamus and AJ Lee) and even a trophy (Cesaro)! Aside from two Divas Battle Royals he wasn't eligible to enter, Kofi Kingston stole the show in every match, masterfully playing a game of "the floor is lava." More impressive than Kingston's skills, the ring never collapsed under the weight of the roster.

Vacant Intercontinental Championship *WWE Battleground*, 20/7

United States Championship *Raw*, 5/5

Andre the Giant Memorial Trophy *WM30*, 6/4

Spot in the Money in the Bank Match *Raw*, 5/5

WWE Title Opportunity *Royal Rumble*, 26/1

Divas Title Opportunity *Main Event*, 15/4

Divas Championship *WrestleMania 30*, 6/4

BIG SPLASH

Old School

Date: 31.10.1994

Location: Burlington, Vermont

A LOST *RAW* MOMENT

Few could match Bob Backlund's intensity. After weeks of seeing Backlund terrorise the New Generation with his Crossface Chicken Wing, *Raw* commentator Randy Savage had seen enough and verbally tore into the submission specialist throughout the show. Backlund got even once *Raw* ended, though, sneaking through the crowd and ruthlessly attacking Savage in what turned out to be The Macho Man's last WWE appearance.

BIG SPLASH

Stat Slam

WWE Battleground

Date: 20.7.14

Location: Tampa, FL

WORST FRIEND FOREVER

When AJ Lee returned on June 30 and recaptured the Divas Championship against Paige, The Diva of Tomorrow put on a fake smile and took the loss in stride. But after AJ defeated the up-and-comer a second time, Paige couldn't keep her anger buried any longer, turning on her pretend BFF the following night.

Photography by
CRAIG AMBROSIO

87.5%

AJ Lee's winning percentage, a 14-2 record, in matches with the Divas Championship on the line. AJ's lone losses came to Cameron (via DQ) and Paige (pinfall).

6

Divas who've held either the Women's or the Divas Title longer than AJ Lee, who was once Divas Champion for 295 days. Only two of those reigns occurred in the *Raw* era.

1977

Year the term "frenemies"—a portmanteau for people who aren't quite friends but not quite enemies either—was first coined by the sister of a journalist. Or journalister!

33

Total number of Divas to capture their first Women's or Divas Championship since Paige was born. Before then, only six Divas held a female WWE championship.

$410

Price of the most expensive women's pair of Dr. Martens on the market. The shoes first hit stores April 1, 1960, but were invented during World War II.

Things Are About to Get Personal.
TOTAL
DIVAS
BRAND NEW SEASON
SUNDAY NIGHTS ON
E!
POP OF CULTURE
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#TotalDivas

P.22 **PIGSKIN!** Int'l Superstars talk football.

P.23 **ME? A JERK?** We give Paul Heyman the boot!

P.24 **TIME OUT** The history of title vacancies in WWE.

P.26 **Q-AND-A** Lana speaks! Rusev stares!

P.35 **CESARO** The One-Word Interview!

BRAWL!

HELL IN A CELL
October 26, 2014

Illustration by **ALEXANDER WELLS**

Nine Circles of Hell (in a Cell)

The HIAC Match changes careers and settles scores between bitter rivals inside and atop its unforgiving metal walls. It's been the most consistently masochistic match in WWE since its 1997 premiere. Superstars in this brutal bout can experience different levels of hell—some physical, others mental—with each more wicked than the last.

2 THUMBTACKS, BARBED WIRE AND FIRE

The deadly trio of foreign objects, these three items—literally—stick with a Superstar throughout the match.

UNDERTAKER SPEARED THROUGH THE CELL WALL (*SUMMERSLAM*, 17/8/08)

1 SMASHED INTO CELL WALL

The unforgiving steel tears Superstars and it's the easiest tool of pain—considering it surrounds the grapplers.

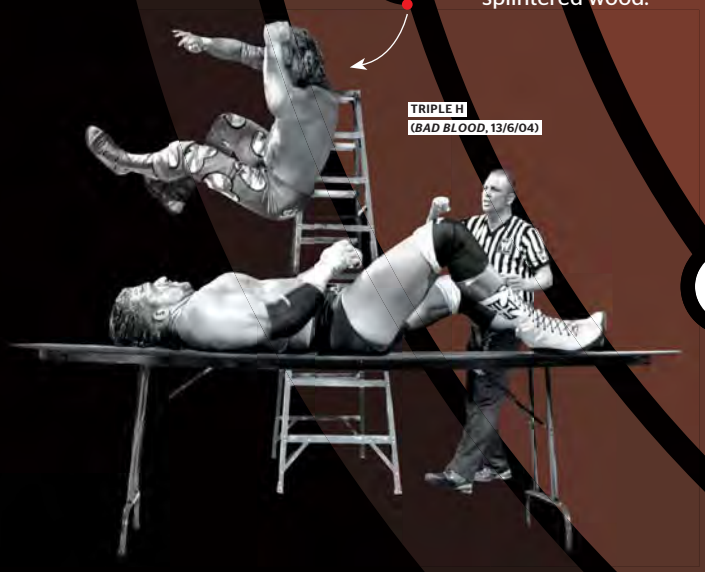
5 OUTSIDE DESTRUCTION

The Cell is meant to keep you in, but the pain doesn't stop when you sneak out.

Triple H competed in Cell Matches in five straight years (2002-2006).

3 TABLE CRASHES

Once you're locked into the Cell, you cannot escape the feeling of splintered wood.



TRIPLE H (*BAD BLOOD*, 13/6/04)

PHONY CAMERAMAN EDGE CLOCKED THE UNDERTAKER (*SURVIVOR SERIES*, 11/18/07)

4 INTERFERENCE

Some third-parties cannot stand by and watch the mayhem, so they find a way inside hell and stack the odds.

The Undertaker is the first Superstar to win a title inside the Cell.

JOHN CENA GIVES RANDY ORTON AN AA (*RAW*, 28/9/09)

7 FINISHER ON TOP OF THE CELL

Combine the Cell's height with the rough steel and a finisher, and you have a deadly equation.

SHAWN MICHAELS (*HELL IN A CELL*, 27/10/13)

HBK has interferred in both of the Cell Matches he's refereed.

6 BETRAYAL

Referees take an oath to be impartial, but some have inserted themselves into the match—be it with a Superkick or a low-blow.

Rikishi and Mick Foley are the only Superstars to fall from the roof.

9 FALL OFF THE CELL

Woe to the poor souls to suffer in the ninth circle. Getting tossed from the Cell's roof is the most painful punishment of all.

MICK FOLEY AS MANKIND (*KING OF THE RING*, 26/6/98)

8 THROUGH THE CELL

You have two ways to get back inside the demonic structure: convince the ref to reopen the door, or go through the harsh steel of the roof.

MICK FOLEY (*NO WAY OUT*, 27/2/00)

DON'T MISS HELL IN A CELL

The devil will be in Dallas as rivals step inside Hell in a Cell while the demonic structure celebrates its 17th year of dishing out pain.

ON WWE NETWORK OCTOBER 26, 2014

INTERNATIONAL

Superstars Talk Pigskin!

Unlike WWE's worldwide appeal, the NFL remains a U.S. sport at heart. So we assembled a panel of international Superstars to examine the complexities of American football.

"IT'S LIKE IF YOU COMPARE JAZZ TO MARCH MUSIC. WITH JAZZ, YOU DO WHATEVER YOU PLEASE. IT'S CREATIVE AND FROM THE HEART... THEN YOU HAVE MARCH MUSIC."
—Cesaro, equating American football to a boring marching band

ROSE'S TEAM?
He's never heard of the Super Bowl, but Adam Rose said his favourite team was the Dallas Cowboys because the name reminds him of Bo Dallas.

THE NFL KICKS OFF SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

1. WHAT WAS YOUR INTRO TO AMERICAN FOOTBALL?

Natalya (from Canada): My dad [Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart"] played for the Oakland Raiders and the Dallas Cowboys. Growing up in our house, whenever it was football season, it was on. My dad is obsessed with the NFL.

Cesaro (from Switzerland): Well, unfortunately, it's on TV all the time. *SportsCenter* is full of it, so you can't really find a way around it.

Adam Rose (from the Bahamas): Americans play soccer?

2. WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL?

Natalya: Football brings people together. Think about the times you bond with your family and friends, a lot of them are watching a football game—very much in the same way people bond while watching WWE.

Cesaro: The best part about the sport is the commercials. For most of the American sports, people essentially go to eat and drink and don't really care about the "sport." It's just designed so people watch TV and watch commercials.

Rose: Why would you play soccer with helmets? It sounds more like jousting, honestly.

3. AND WHAT DOESN'T APPEAL TO YOU?

Natalya: People get too obsessed. When it comes time for football season, it's like nothing else exists. Some people won't even take their wife out on their anniversary during a game.

Cesaro: Here's the question: What *do* I like? The list would be shorter.

Rose: The fact that they're wearing helmets and shoulder pads is weird. Who does that? Nobody does that.

4. IS THERE ANYTHING THAT CONFUSES YOU?

Natalya: I'm always trying to figure out what kind of dance routines they're doing after they score a touchdown. They need a little lesson from Naomi. She can show them some new moves.

Cesaro: Here's a league that has 16 games a year and you make millions of dollars for playing 10 seconds at a time, then you need to be hooked up to an oxygen machine.

Rose: If it was gladiator days, I can see wearing pads, but then you should have a sword, shouldn't you?

Jerk — OF THE — Month

Every 30 Days, *WWE Magazine* celebrates the roster's most malicious malcontents and all the evil they've wrought on the WWE Universe by honouring them with this prestigious trophy. Say hello to this month's bad guy: **Paul Heyman**

THE "MY CLIENT..." JERK INDEX

We're Willing To Overlook
When you have a Superstar such as Brock Lesnar standing behind you, it's totally understandable to feel safe and to talk more trash than usual. Who'd stop you?

Kinda Jerkish
You've been in The Beast Incarnate's corner for more than a dozen years. In that time you've done a lot of heinous things, but offering Lesnar as a "Plan C" to The Authority might be the most disappointing.

Major League Jerk
We support the plight of the backstage reporter (journalists—unite)! So when you give Renee Young a tough time during her interviews, we can't help but feel her pain. She's just trying to get the scoop—you don't need to sass her.

Total & Complete Jerk
You're the "One behind the 'one' in 21-1," Brock Lesnar, and everyone fears him—rightfully so. You have so much to be proud of. But do you need to remind us about his accomplishments every week? Ugh, change the record!

> I marvel at those who envy me because I define the difference between dreamers and wanters. Take your best shot at me, but do it quickly because I have a lot to accomplish, and you ain't seen nothing yet.
>
> PAUL HEYMAN

Photography by **JASON TANAKA BLANEY**

Golden Holidays: The Definitive Timeline of Title Vacations

Gold rarely takes any time off. But with vacant championships a fixture in WWE of late—most recently with Daniel Bryan and Bad News Barrett forfeiting their respective titles—it seems WWE's championships are finally cashing in some much needed vacation days.

1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999

WWE CHAMPIONSHIP

51 DAYS
Andre The Giant
5/2/88 – 27/3/88

Won by Randy Savage
WWE stripped Andre of the title after he sold it to The Million Dollar Man.

WON BY A ROYAL RUMBLE MATCH!

46 DAYS
Hulk Hogan
4/12/91 – 19/1/92

by Ric Flair
Jack Tunney vacated the title following two controversial bouts between Hogan and The Undertaker.

14 DAYS
Shawn Michaels
27/9/93 – 11/10/93

by Razor Ramon
HBK failed to defend his title within 30 days.

7 DAYS
Goldust
15/4/96 – 22/4/96

by Goldust
A Draw between Goldust and Savio Vega caused WWE to vacate it.

3 DAYS
Shawn Michaels
13/2/97 – 16/2/97

by Bret Hart
A lost smile forced HBK to surrender the gold.

49 DAYS
Stone Cold
27/9/98 – 15/11/98

by The Rock
'Taker and Kane pinned Austin simultaneously, leaving the title open.

6 DAYS
Mr. McMahon
20/9/99 – 26/9/99

by Triple H
The Chairman didn't want to be champion.

INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP

48 DAYS
The Ultimate Warrior
1/4/90 – 19/5/90

Won by Mr. Perfect
President Tunney ruled Warrior couldn't hold both the WWE and the Intercontinental Championship after *WrestleMania VI*.

42 DAYS
Ahmed Johnson
12/8/96 – 23/9/96

by Marc Mero
A series of brutal attacks by Faarooq sidelined the champion Johnson with a kidney injury.

3 DAYS
Triple H
9/10/98 – 12/10/98

by Ken Shamrock
In a *WWE.com* announcement, Mr. McMahon stripped the title from an injured Triple H.

1 DAY
Jeff Jarrett
26/4/95 – 26/4/95

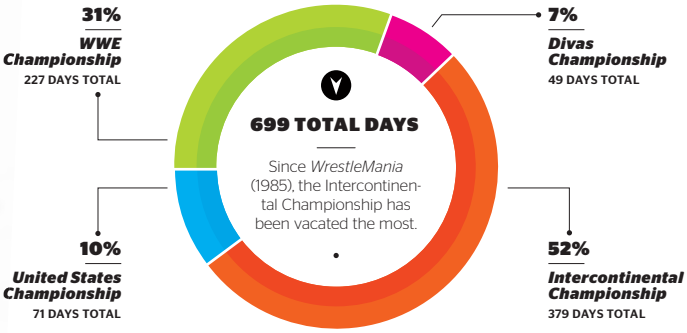
by Jeff Jarrett
BY SIX-PACK CHALLENGE
Indecisive Jarrett/Bob Holly bouts caused officials to vacate it.

1 DAY
Stone Cold
8/12/97 – 8/12/97

by The Rock
Stone Cold surrendered the title, but threw it in a river!

The Tag Titles haven't been vacated since their 2002 debut.

THE INVASION AND BRAND SPLIT MEANT NO OPEN IC TITLE FOR FOUR YEARS.



2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014

IT TOOK 25 YEARS BEFORE THE WWE CHAMPIONSHIP WAS FIRST VACATED IN 1988.

6 DAYS
Edge
6/9/04 – 12/9/04
by Chris Jericho
Edge couldn't defend his championship within 30 days.

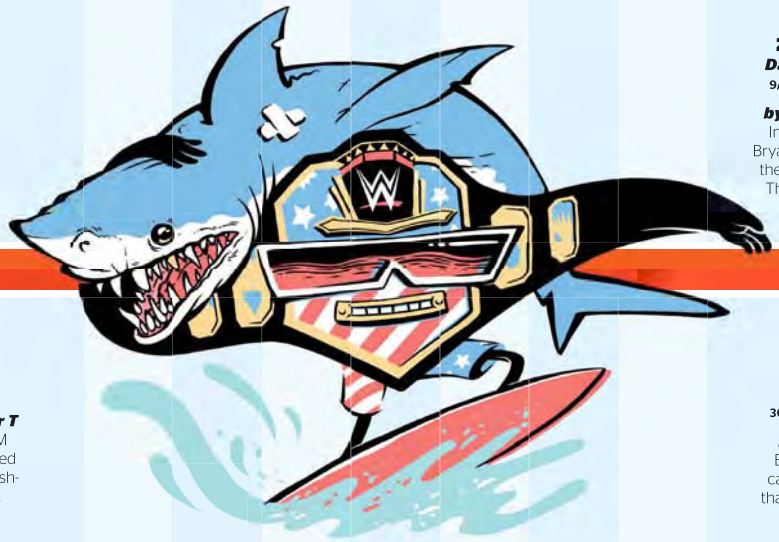
5 DAYS
John Cena
2/10/07 – 7/10/07
by Randy Orton
An RKO knocked Cena out of action.

6 DAYS
Batista
9/6/09 – 15/6/09
by Randy Orton
A bicep tear cost Batista his title.

41 DAYS
Daniel Bryan
16/9/13 – 27/10/13
by Randy Orton
Triple H alleged Bryan won with a fast count.

20 DAYS
Daniel Bryan
9/6/14 – 29/6/14
by John Cena
Injuries forced Bryan to relinquish the title, much to The Authority's delight.

210 DAYS
Triple H
20/10/02 – 18/5/03
by Christian
Raw GM Eric Bischoff unified the World Heavyweight and Intercontinental Championships.

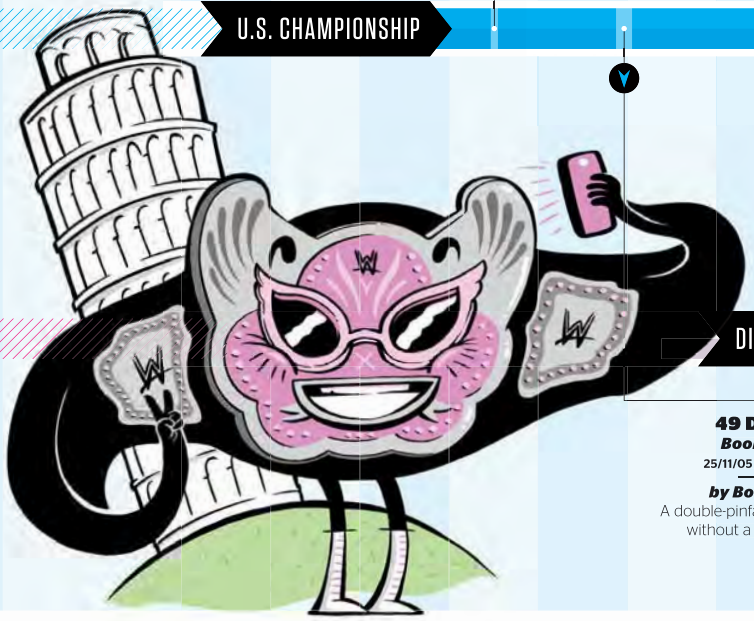


27 DAYS
Stone Cold
8/9/97 – 5/10/97
by Owen Hart
Austin suffered a neck injury while capturing the Intercontinental Title, so he had to relinquish it.

21 DAYS
John Cena
8/7/04 – 29/7/04
Won by Booker T
SmackDown GM Kurt Angle vacated the title as a punishment for Cena.

20 DAYS
Bad News Barrett
30/6/14 – 20/7/14
by The Miz
Barrett's reign came to an end thanks to a shoulder injury.

U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP



1 DAY
Bret Hart
24/5/10 – 24/5/10
by R-Truth
The Hitman forfeited his newly won U.S. Championship to become *Raw* General Manager.

R-TRUTH DEF. THE MIZ

DIVAS CHAMPIONSHIP

It took Melina 10 months to reclaim the Divas Title after surrending it.

49 DAYS
Booker T
25/11/05 – 13/1/06
by Booker T
A double-pinfall left America without a champion.

49 DAYS
Melina
4/1/10 – 22/2/10
Won by Maryse
An ACL tear in six-Diva tag action stopped Melina's reign.

Illustrations by **ANTHONY SEKYERE**

THE RUSSIANS AREN'T COMING...THEY'RE ALREADY HERE. THE CONTROVERSIAL DUO CERTAINLY HASN'T MADE MANY FRIENDS IN ITS SHORT TIME IN WWE, BUT THEY'VE CHANGED THE LANDSCAPE WITH **RUSEV'S** IN-RING DOMINANCE AND **LANA'S** POLITICAL COMMENTARY. IN HER FIRST *WWE MAGAZINE* INTERVIEW, THE RAVISHING RUSSIAN RIPS ON AMERICAN MUSIC, CONFRONTS WWE HALL OF FAMER HULK HOGAN AND BANISHES THE IDEA OF SMILING IN PHOTOGRAPHS.

ATTENTION!

BY JEFF LABOON
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
JASON TANAKA BLANEY

What do Americans get wrong about Russians?
When Rusev and I take a picture, people say we're jerks because we're not smiling. But no, you're jerks because we look at it as, "You're smiling in the picture? That's fake." How ignorant to think we're being mean to you because we aren't smiling. You don't even know our culture. We don't smile in pictures. And from a political standpoint, people think Russia wants to take over the world. No, we want Russia to be a great nation. What is wrong with wanting to be patriotic and wanting your country to be great? That's patriotism.

Could you please translate what Rusev says in his entrance music: "Rusev vudriya, Rusev machka"?
Quite simply, "Rusev hit, Rusev crush"!

And why has he been able to hit and crush so effectively in WWE?
Because of his strength and his agility, but also because of his mental focus. He does a whole series of meditating and focusing. That's what separates him from the rest of the Superstars here.

When Rusev locks in the Accolade, he wears a blank, frightening stare. Meanwhile, you're on the outside screaming and pounding your fist. Can you talk about that difference?
As a whole, the Russian/Eastern European culture is intense, disciplined, and passionate. So I'm very passionate for everything we do and for him to win and to succeed. That's probably why I get very aggressive with it and very intense. We represent Russia and I'm very passionate about that. Rusev shows emotion very differently. He hides a lot of his emotion until he has to bring it out.

You're a mystery. We only know about your appreciation for the motherland. What else does Lana enjoy outside crushing enemies?
We love going to operas. *Carmen* is our favorite opera. It's his favourite music ever. He listens to it all the time in the car. We love Russian food and Bulgarian food. We're big football fans—or what you call "soccer"—the real football. I love sports in general. I love Formula One. I love ballet—obviously because I used to perform ballet. I love going to museums and anything to do with art—paintings, ballet, operas and independent films. With the countries we go to, I like to see the differences. It reflects the culture and it will tell you the differences between each country's people, looking at their local music, their local food, and their local art.

"WE LEARNED FROM THE GREATS AND WE LEARNED FROM THE PAST. WE EVOLVED AND WE'VE BECOME EVEN BETTER."

LANA

Speaking of music, what do you make of the pop music scene in the United States?
I don't like American commercial radio. It's just cotton candy. It's good for 12-year-olds—that's great—but I don't really like it. A lot of rap is all-around degrading. I prefer live music. I support local artists, so I like to go see the artists who are painting in the square or perhaps I'll even buy a piece of art. You can appreciate good, authentic art versus the commercialised trash on the radio, especially since it's degrading women.

What made you the Lana we know today?
A lot of it is how I grew up. My mother is a feminist and believes in women's rights, and the same with my father. My father stood by the idea that anything you want to do, you could do. If you want to be president, then you can be the first [female] president. Don't limit yourself because you're a female. In middle school and high school, I had to work so much harder at the Russian ballet school. I had to be so disciplined at age 10 and it gave me the concepts of discipline, work ethic and that anything I put my mind to, I can achieve if I think positively and work really hard. At 10 years old, I wasn't the most talented and they said I could never be a ballerina, but I worked really hard. Out of 30 people that started at 10 years old, I was one of the four girls who graduated at age 18 and became a professional ballerina. So those things I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

You aren't the first international Superstar to openly criticise the U.S.A., but what sets you apart from the rest?
We are better than the past because we've studied our past. We've studied the things they did well and the things they didn't do well. We learned from the greats and we learned from the past. We evolved and we've become even better.

Hypothetical: You're face to face with Hulk Hogan, a symbol of American pride. What do you say to him?
He represents how America has risen and how they're falling. He was dominant at America's greatest economic time, but *unfortunately*, that time is no more. It's crumbling economically and the place of power is falling. Many countries rise and fall. We all get old at the end of the day. That's the same with a country. He represents the greatest time of America. It's just not like that anymore and I don't think it ever will be.

The Elements of John Cena

What makes John Cena "The Champ"? Get pumped for WWE Home Video's three-disc set of his matches—out October 14—with this breakdown.

HEAD

Massachusetts state of mind

Scent for championship gold

Mandarin Chinese

He's thrown countless hats into the crowd in his career.

Throwback sports jersey

SHOULDER

Dirt that needs brushed off shoulders

Vanilla Ice and MC Hammer CDs

RIGHT ARM

Five steel knuckles

Saluting Hand

#54

Hat-Launcher

RIGHT LEG

Stocks in Jorts industry

Cena uses his right leg for a punishing top-rope legdrops.

15 World Championships

Hate he needs to rise above

FEET

Sneaker Pumps

LEFT ARM

Inventory of unused head bands

Bicep size of most people's head

Ruthless Aggression

Cena sports—and stretches—a headband on his left bicep.

Lost Ferrari keys

CHEST

Loyalty

Inability to give up

Hustle

Love of Make-A-Wish

Respect

1966 Mustang engine

ABDOMEN

Guts

Whataburger

Extra Fruity Pebbles

Thuganomics Degree

LEFT LEG

Dance moves

Cenation Headquarters

Spinners

Slammy Award Trophy Case

John Cena Greatest Rivalries

John Cena has battled with the best in his 12 years of WWE competition, but check out his fiercest opponents in this three-disc set.

AVAILABLE OCTOBER 13, 2014

PROP STYLING BY LINNEA KEMPER FOR AMAX

A *WWE Magazine* bag-check reveals how Xavier Woods (PhD) reps nerd life and hits the books on the road.

1. Psychology Books
"I'm still working on my PhD. I'm earning my dissertation right now."

2. Super Nintendo Games
"I have a handheld portal Super Nintendo that I keep with me, so I have to have games to play that."

3. Harry Potter & Slytherin Scarf
"*Harry Potter* is an incredible series. Slytherin is the house I'd be in."

4. Sonic Belt Buckle
"I love Sonic the Hedgehog—he's awesome—and that's one of my favourite belt buckles, so I always keep it with me."

5. Carlton Banks T-shirt
"I love *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*. Carlton is someone I loved as a child and still do today. He has sweet dance moves and he is all-around just a great guy."

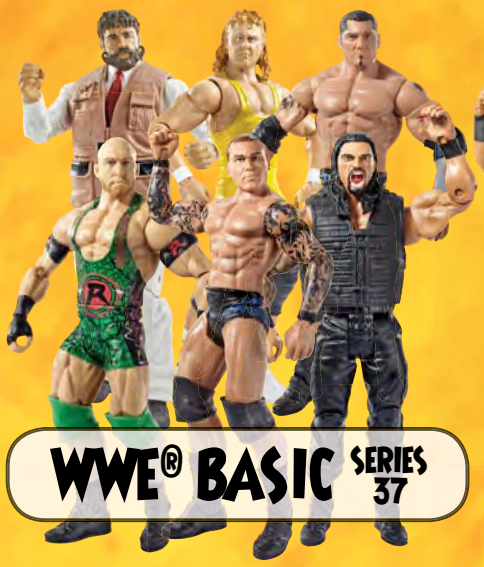
6. Cocoa Krispies
"I have a sweet tooth and that sweet tooth loves to eat chocolate. Cocoa Krispies is the best cereal in the world. A bowl of cereal and a cup of chocolate milk make me feel a lot better about life."

7. Loot Crate
"They send me a box full of nerd stuff once a month. It's real cool because you never know what you're going to get."

8. Lanyard
"I have badges from conventions like DragonCon, ComicCon, and SuperCon."

9. Trombone
"I'm fluent in the language of music and I play trombone quite well. It's very soothing to play at night after shows."

Photography by **MARIUS BUGGE**



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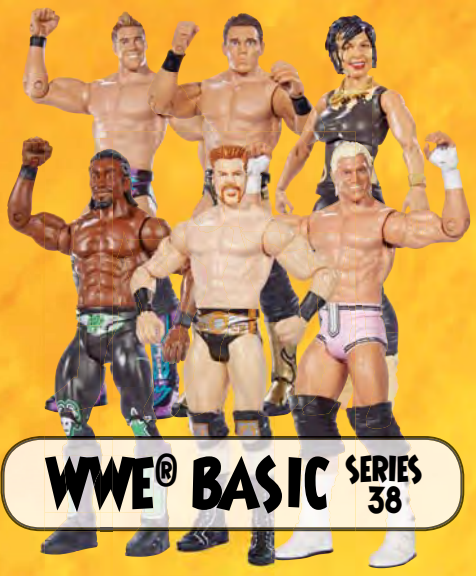
WWE® BATTLE PACKS SERIES 27



WWE® BASIC SERIES 38

WWE® BASIC SERIES 39

WWE® RUMBLERS

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TOYMASTER

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A1 Toys .com

A1COMICS.COM

THEN AND NOW

WWE Magazine tracked down vintage photos of our in-ring vets to determine exactly how different the person holding those pictures is today?

ALICIA FOX

What Alicia Fox remembers about her first days on the roster in 2008...
"Going from the minor leagues to the big leagues was a lot of pressure. So I spent my first couple of days in a complete mental shell. I had no idea what was going on, just taking notes, running around, being nervous, feeling like I had to puke—the normal feelings of anxiety."

The most important thing on Alicia Fox's mind at the time...
"Probably the same thing that I'm thinking in this picture: What's my hair doing? Oh my God, what am I doing? Is this all going to be OK?"

How different the Alicia Fox is today...
"I'm a lot more confident just because, through experience, I learned I am my own best friend and my own worst enemy. That's a harsh reality when you aren't used to thinking like that. The difference would be just how comfortable I am in my own skin."

What the 2014 Alicia wishes she could tell the woman in that pic...
"Don't worry, girl, it's OK. Just go to work, smile and enjoy the time you're having with this opportunity. Stop worrying about the future because guess what, it's not what you think will happen, OK? None of what you think is going to happen, happens. Just go with the flow. Stop being such a worrier."

> That gear in particular was my first real gear, so I actually have it in my closet now. It's not going to be hung up or anything, it's probably going to be passed down to my kids for Halloween costumes.
>
> ALICIA FOX

PROP STYLING BY MARK DELPRA; GROOMING BY HILLARY FENTON

Photography by JASON TANAKA BLANEY

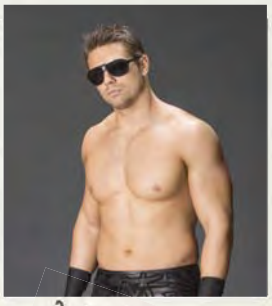
The One-Word Interview

Cesaro lets his actions speak for him, but he took a swing at breaking down the locker room with some word association.

21-1

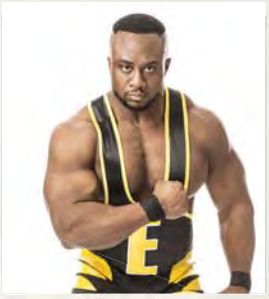
I c u

Selfie



Ruined the word Awesome

Broder



Chesty (PG)

Zigman

Villain

mooooo

Bigg Yosemite Hoss Sam

Burger

Petit beurre

THEN. NOW. FOREVER.

WWE TRENDWATCH

Superstars need extra grip for their hands in the ring. *WWE Magazine* explores the flashiest ways Superstars protect their mitts with:

WWE GLOVES

Then: Booker T

Now: Stardust

Forever!: The Undertaker

April 2013 Brock Lesnar

May 2013

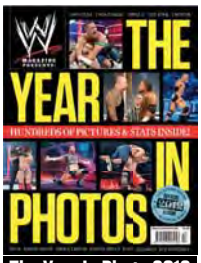
June 2013

July 2013

August 2013

September 2013

October 2013


The Year In Photo 2012

MISSED AN ISSUE?

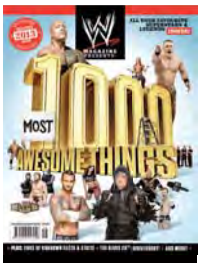
If you're new to *WWE Magazine* or a returning reader, here's your chance to get caught up with all of the exclusive interviews, outstanding photo-shoots, in-depth features and pull-out posters and DVDs you've missed!

CALL US ON: 01737 457828
OR EMAIL US AT: SUBS@WWE-MAG.COM

The Best Of WWE Magazine 2012

November 2013

December 2013


WWE - 1000 Most Awesome Things

WWE MAGAZINE August 2014

WWE MAGAZINE September 2014

The 2013 WWE Roster

Poster Book 2014

January 2014

30 Years Of WrestleMania

The Year In Photo 2013

February 2014

March 2014

April 2014

Spring 2014

May 2014

June 2014

July 2014

4 Reasons to Fly Alongside Adrian Neville

"The Man That Gravity Forgot" puts a twist—or two or three—on classic aerial moves as he defends his NXT Championship. The highflier is ready to leave the atmosphere, so make sure you've got your ticket to ride!

WATCH THE CHAMP ON WWE NETWORK
Adrian Neville flies onto WWE Network every Thursday to retain his NXT Championship against the toughest challengers.

THURSDAYS AT 8PM ET
@WWENXT

1

His döppelganger...
Neville's acrobatic finisher the Red Arrow resembles a twirling, red Royal Air Force airplane.

2

His nickname...
"The Man That Gravity Forgot" thumbs his nose at the out-dated notion that what goes up must come down.

3

His appreciation for reggae...
Neville jams to reggae by The Slackers and Wayne Smith before a bout.

4

Geometry...
He makes 360 degrees look mundane with his (backward) Imploding 450 Splash.

WORLD-CHANGING DISCOVERIES!

Columbus Day observes the explorer's trip to the New World. Celebrate the holiday—October 13—with WWE's best revelations.

TRIPLE H BETRAYED HBK
After getting jumped in a parking lot, Shawn Michaels went to the tape, which revealed Triple H perpetrated the attack.

FLAIR'S PHOTOS WERE FAKED
Ric Flair presented photos of him vacationing with Miss Elizabeth, but a closer look showed they were doctored.

THE FABULOUS SPIDER
After a controversial loss to the mysterious Spider, Wendi Richter unmasked her to reveal The Fabulous Moolah.

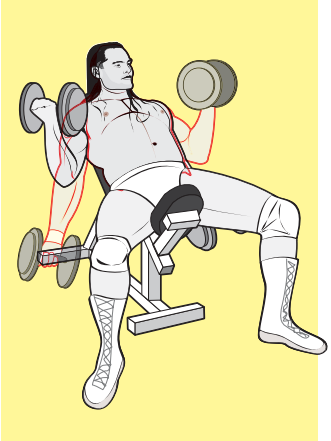
RIKISHI WAS BEHIND THE WHEEL
Rikishi said he ran over Stone Cold for The Rock, but a Triple H-led assault on Austin revealed he was the true mastermind.

KNOWLEDGE

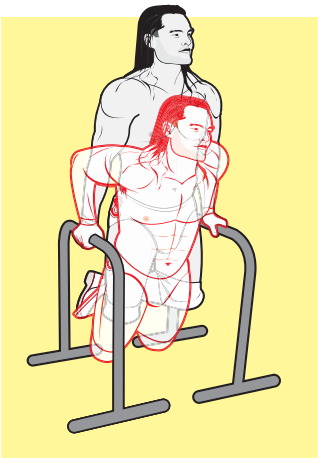
Winning the Arms Race

WWE Performance Center's Strength Coach offers advice on how to get the most out of your guns at the gym!

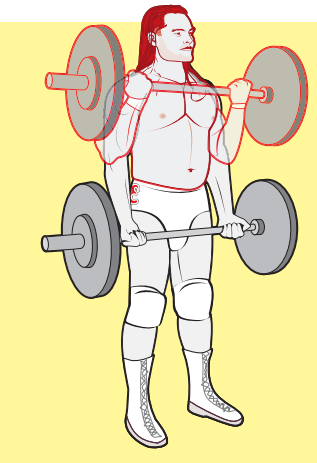
Photography by **JASON TANAKA BLANEY** Routine by **MATT WICHLINSKI**



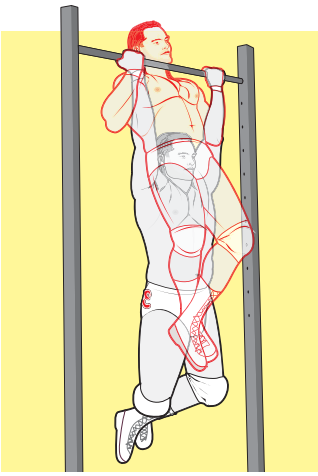
Incline Dumbbell Alternating Curls (Biceps)
These allow a deeper stretch than your typical standing barbell curls. Sit on an incline bench and stretch your arms fully at the bottom. Lifting one barbell at a time, squeeze your biceps hard and rotate your arm naturally at the top.



Dips (Triceps)
Raise yourself up and support your body weight on a set of parallel bars. Squeeze the bars to create maximal tension in your arms. Slowly lower your body until your shoulder joint gets close to or below your elbow joint. Powerfully press back up to full extension.



Standing-Curls with EZ-Curl Bar (Biceps)
Stand upright. Brace your core. Grab the bar and keep your elbows fixed near your torso and your upper arms stationary. Curl the weight up toward your chin and flex your biceps hard at the top before returning to the starting position.



Chin-Ups (Biceps)
Grab the chin-up bar at shoulder-width and hang at arms' length with palms facing toward your body. Keep your torso straight and pull your chest toward the bar. Squeeze hard at the top and flex your biceps and back before slowly lowering to the start position.

ADVANCED TIPS / Wrapping Up Your Workout

Occlusion training involves wrapping something (an arm band, a bandana, etc.) fairly tightly around the top of a limb at a pressure sufficient to restrict blood flow to the veins, but not to the arteries. This way, the arteries continue to deliver blood to the limb, and the blood pools in the limb as the veins struggle to take it back to the heart. This creates a massive pump and increases vascularity in the occluded area when performing some light sets of arm work. Maybe that's why John Cena wears those headbands around his biceps?

PROP STYLING BY MARK DALPRA. GROOMING BY HILLARY FENTON. SHUTTERSTOCK.COM (2). ILLUSTRATIONS BY PETE SUCHESKI

Overhead Triceps Extensions (Triceps)
Hold the weight over your head, keeping your biceps close to your ears with your hands slightly narrower than your elbows. With your elbows fixed, lower the weight behind your head and stretch your triceps. Extend your arms fully to lift the weight over your head.

+

"These can be done standing or seated using various implements such as dumbbells, barbells or cables."

Ask Adam Rose...

The conductor of the Exotic Express takes a detour to talk about the match that made him a fan, the ultimate party foul, and the moment before he made his WWE debut.

By **KAYLA PARENT** Photography by **JASON TANAKA BLANEY**

@ What does Adam Rose think is the ultimate party foul?
Hank W.
The worst thing you can do at a party is, of course, be a lemon. If you're not bringing anything but your sour attitude to the celebration, why go? I certainly wouldn't want you there. Parties are just that, a time to let loose and have a good time. Be a Rosebud.

@ Who is the one person in history you'd love to have on your Exotic Express?
James D.
I'd love William Shatner or Bill Murray. Those two are strange and intriguing in two completely different ways, and I like to employ a wide range of ironic personalities on the Exotic Express.

@ Can you describe what you were thinking during your WWE debut?
Barnaby H.
To be honest, the last thought I had before I walked through the curtain was: do I have any boogers? I had already checked so many times, but it was still weighing heavily on my mind. Talk about stress.

@ Is there one dance craze out there that you think is completely overrated?
Kristen Q.
The Macarena is utterly overrated. I've always thought so, even when I was young and it was supposed to be fun. Practically anyone can perform and remember that dance, which doesn't make it worthy of the fame it's gotten. BORING. Next question!

@ What stipulation match are you most looking forward to participating in?
Emilio V.
I've always liked watching Lumberjack Matches, and I already have a crew of Rosebuds willing and ready to stand for me. Imagine a Lumberbud Match on The Grandest Stage of them All? That would be RIDICULOUS.

@ What is one thing you'd love to say to all your detractors, the non-Rosebuds?
Yuli B.
I have those? I suppose there's bound to be some, but I couldn't imagine why. I'm a superb in-ring Superstar, I don't take myself too seriously, and no one on the roster has a better time than me between the ropes. So it's a get-with-it or get-lost type of situation if you ask me.

@ Is there a part of social media that you like the most?
Matthew B.
My favourite part is that I get to interact with my fans on daily basis. For example: the other day I went into the arena, and a fan Tweeted to me that I left my lights on. I had indeed! So, thank you to that fan, I was able to drive home that day.

@ Is there one defining match or moment in WWE that really solidified Adam Rose as a fan?
Brian C.
WrestleMania III: Andre the Giant vs. Hulk Hogan. I completely bought into the bells and whistles, the prestige of it, and that match changed my outlook forever about what I wanted to become. It may sound cliché to choose, but I couldn't imagine picking anything else.

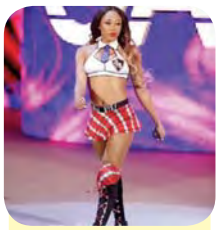
@ Fill in the blank. Adam Rose would never be caught _____?
Adam Rose would never—ever—be caught in a dull moment.

IN HONOUR OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS! / WWE joins in the games!

@ReneeYoungWWE
Kicking off Special Olympics Torch run with @TripleH and @StephMcMahon

@NatbyNature
Being a part of the **@SpecialOlympics** events this year with @wwe has inspired me to want to be better. Such a gift!

@WWEUsos
By far, best day with **@WWECommunity** and @2014USAGAMES! Best of luck to all athletes!! Totally humbling experience!! #USOOO



@WWECameron
Had such an amazing time meeting the athletes today with **@wwecommunity**!

@NaomiWWE
What a great experience to be at the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games which showcases athletes...

@TitusOneilWWE
12:30AM Just landed back home to Tampa. Great Day today thanks for *#2014 specialolympic USAgames*

Naomi On Her Own

Stepping out solo, this dancing Diva dishes about her favourite music video, reveals how she and Jimmy Uso spend their time off, and shares her thoughts on the tag team formerly known as The Funkadactyls.

By **KAYLA PARENT** Photography By **JON RAGEL**

1. When you have some time for just yourself, what are some of your favourite things to do?
Some of my hobbies include writing music, and making key chains with lanyard. When I'm home, it's all fun and play.

2. Do you stress about work during your time off?
Honestly, I don't. Of course there are things that are on my mind, like how I can take it to the next level and improve, but when I'm home, I'm not in work mode.

3. How about you and Jimmy Uso, what do you enjoy doing together?
We spend so much time in a movie theatre because we love the environment and the excitement of seeing a film we've been waiting to see.

4. Is there someplace in the USA that you've always wanted to go, but haven't yet had the chance?
Alaska. WWE has done a tour there before, but I wasn't on it. I was so bummed! It seems like the most gorgeous place in the country, and I don't mind the cold.

5. Do you get a chance to regularly read all of your fans' comments/Tweets?
It means a lot to me what my fans have to say. I think it's part of growing as an entertainer to take criticism, too.

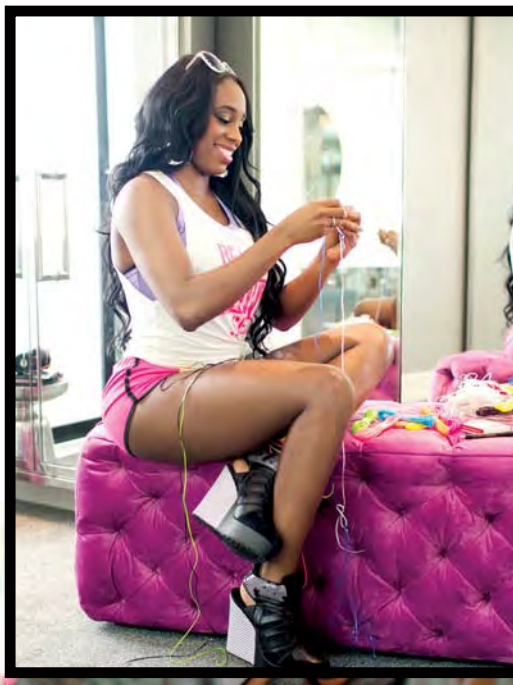
6. So are you of the mind that social media is more beneficial than not to WWE Superstars and Divas?
Completely. The WWE Universe makes us who we are, and I never forget that.

7. Which reality show do you consider your guilty pleasure?
Naked and Afraid! That show is insane. I don't know how or why these people do it, but it sure is fun to watch.

8. What has been your friends and family's reaction to *Total Divas*?
Since I'm on the road we don't get to talk all the time, so they'll call me up and say: "When did that happen?!" I'm always like, everything's fine, that was a while ago!

9. We love your new music video "Dance All Night!" Which artist do you consider an inspiration?
Janet Jackson. She was always so on point. My favourite music video of all time has to be "Pleasure Principal."

10. A lot has gone down with you and Cameron, looking back, what do you think was your biggest difference??
I'm mellow, she's feisty. It worked well for a while, but everyone saw how that turned out. Nothing lasts forever.



> I'm mellow, she's [Cameron] fiesty. It worked well for a while, but everyone saw how that turned out. Nothing lasts forever.
>
> **NAOMI**

STYLING BY SOFIA KARVELA FOR WWW.AGENTOLIVER.COM.
HAIR AND MAKEUP BY HILLARY FENTON

How Much Do You Know About... The Match Known As Hell in a Cell?

HIAC is considered one of the most dangerous, destructive and demonic stipulation matches in WWE history! We've compiled 10 questions about the brutal brawl below. Now—let's go to hell!

1 No other match could rightfully end the rivalry between The Undertaker and Triple H but HIAC. Can you put these 10 match photos in the order they happened?

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

1 ____ 2 ____ 3 ____ 4 ____ 5 ____ 6 ____ 7 ____ 8 ____ 9 ____ 10 ____

2 Three Superstars have won the only HIAC match they've been in. Which of the following is not one of them?

- A Brock Lesnar
- B Alberto Del Rio
- C Kurt Angle
- D Mark Henry

3 True or False? There has been a Hell in a Cell match contested each year since the first ever bout between The Undertaker and Shawn Michaels held in 1997.

? ____

4 Which of the following was not something Edge suffered during his Hell in a Cell match at *SummerSlam*?

- A Chokeslam off a ladder
- B Sent into a fiery hole in the ring
- C Chokeslam onto the announce table
- D Tombstone Piledriver

5 Which two Superstar scompeted in the longest Hell in a Cell Match in history at almost 48 minutes?

- **A** Shawn Michaels & Undertaker
- **B** John Cena & Randy Orton
- **C** Triple H & Undertaker
- **D** Shawn Michaels & Triple H

6 **Who Am I?** I tried to stop the 6-Man Hell in a Cell Match at *Armageddon* 2000 by driving a truck to the ring and tearing off the cell door.

?

7 What did Rikishi land on during his terrible tumble from the top of the Hell in a Cell cage?

- **A** Truck full of Styrofoam
- **B** Truck full of leaves
- **C** Pile of Superstars
- **D** The Spanish Announce Table

8 Which debuting Superstar interrupted the HIAC match between Undertaker and HBK at *Bad Blood 1997*?

- **A** Mankind
- **B** Kane
- **C** Edge
- **D** Bradshaw

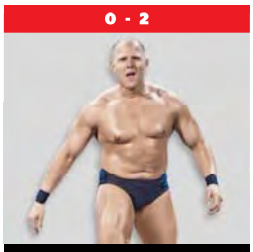
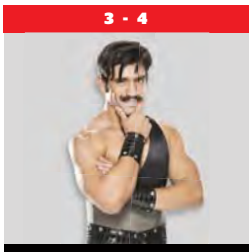
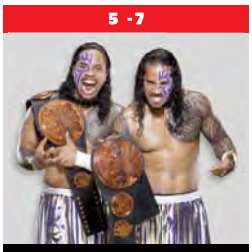
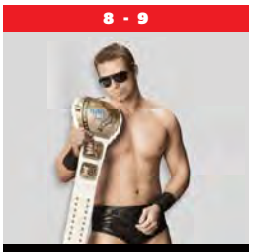
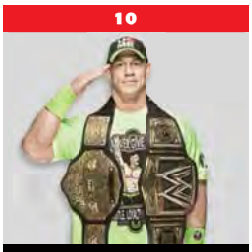
10 What phrase did Jim Ross yell when Mick Foley was thrown 16 feet off the top of the cell in 1998?

- **A** "Good riddance!"
- **B** "He's broken in half!"
- **C** "BOOMER SOONER!"
- **D** "I can't believe this!"

9 **Unscramble Me:** Which crooked referee cost Ryback his WWE Championship opportunity at the *Hell in a Cell* event in 2012?

DRAB DAXMOD

TIME'S UP! / Match your answers below to see where you rank in terms of WWE intelligence.

0 - 2	3 - 4	5 -7	8 - 9	10
				
LOCAL COMPETITOR	*NXT* ROOKIE	TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS	INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION	WWE WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION

1: L D, H, F, J, C, G, E, A, B; 2. B; 3. FALSE. THERE WAS NO MATCH IN 2001; 4. C; 5. D; 6. Mr. McMAHON; 7. B; 8. B; 9. BRAD MADDOX; 10. B

THE MIZ
3/10/14
No one gave more time (and trash talk) over the years than this man.

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF WWE MAGAZINE

1983-2014

By The WWE Magazine Staff

For more than 30 years, we've brought you the best of WWE, both inside and outside the ring. As a present, we're offering a unique glimpse of the stories and photos that never were, a few that were meant to be, and some of our all-time favourites. Now we can truly say that we gave you our all!

An outtake from our favourite Dolph Ziggler shoot (January 2014). He was supposed to look spent not smirky.

TITUS O'NEIL
3/11/14
Titus always had ideas for all of his shoots and we were always happy to oblige.

JACK SWAGGER
11/3/14
Now that he's a "fan favourite," Big Hoss is free to flash that big, bright smile of his.

KAITLYN

13/5/13
Senior Designer Kyla Paolucci spent hours upon hours designing this, the "greatest vest ever" for Kaitlyn. This was actually meant to be a poster, but due to timing and Kaitlyn changing her hair color, we never got a chance to display it. And then Kaitlyn left and we were bummed. But here it is (finally) in all its laser-eyed, rainbow glory!

OUR FAVOURITE COVERS

We always wanted every cover of *WWE Magazine* to jump out, grab you and grapple you into the WWE Universe. Here's a few from recent years that we hope will stand the test of time and become the classic images of this era.

MAY 2012

MARCH 2014

NOVEMBER 2013

MARCH 2013

STARDUST

5/8/14
Stardust was quite a polarizing figure in the final days of the *WWE Magazine* offices. Some were weirded out by his character quirks while others absolutely could not get enough of his quest for the Cosmic Key. We so very much wanted to put Stardust on the cover, but that was not meant to be. Maybe in another time or dimension. Until then we'll look to the stars.

BAD NEWS BARRETT
11/3/14
Sometimes we'd take photos just to have some nice shots of the Superstars for unknown future stories. And no, Barrett did not deliver our "bad news."

OUR FAVOURITE POSTERS

Posters were always a huge part of *WWE Magazine's* 31-year history. The best compliments we ever received were when members of the WWE Universe would tear anything out of the mag and hang it on their wall.

THE BELLAS
AUGUST 2013

WARRIOR
MAY 2014

HULK HOGAN
SPRING 2014

THE WYATTS
APRIL 2014

Dean had to wait about 30 minutes before we took this picture and we talked his ear off the entire time.

DEAN AMBROSE

7/9/12
Before Dean Ambrose ever debuted with The Shield, we noticed him skulking around backstage. Even then we had an inkling that there was something special about this guy. So we simply had to photograph him. No one on set knew much about him, but as soon as we started snapping off some shots in the back of a production truck everyone was convinced that Ambrose had "it."

ALICIA FOX
6/2/14
Alicia had an idea for her "Then & Now" shoot and luckily she waited until the end to show it to us!

GOLDUST & ERICK ROWAN
6/2/14
Erick Rowan always stopped everyone backstage, even a man known for being bizarre.

OUR FAVOURITE STORIES

Some stories took months of careful preparation and thought while others grew out of a casual joke or throw away comment. Despite their origins these were some of the most fun ones to work on that ended up exactly as we envisioned them.

PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY
JUNE 2013

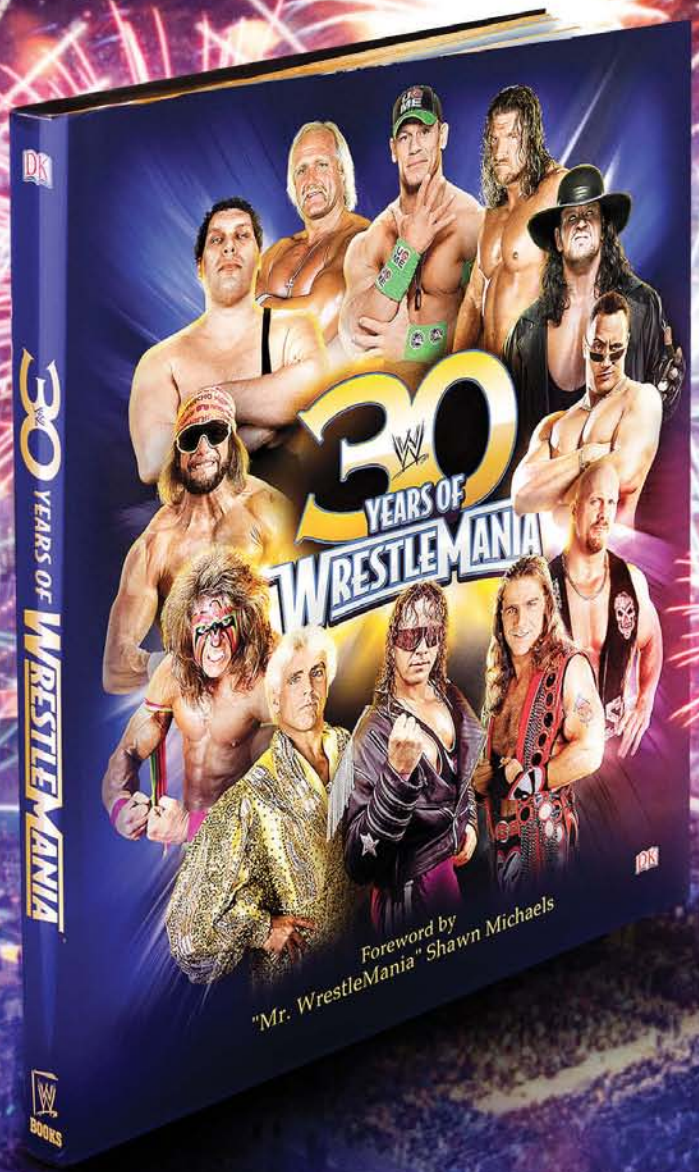
FACES OF EVIL
OCTOBER 2012

BEFORE THE BELL
DECEMBER 2011

ULTIMATE TAG TEAM PARTNER
AUGUST 2014

48 HOURS BACKSTAGE
SEPTEMBER 2013

There Is No Greater Canvas On Which History Can Be Written



The Book 30 Years In The Making

WRESTLEMANIA

is an event without equal or precedent. No grander stage on which champions may walk, it is the birthplace of legends, and the Showcase of the Immortals.

Available online or wherever books are sold

RELIVE • EXPLORE • ADVENTURE • DISCOVER

THE WYATTS

28/4/14
There is a woman named Rachel who calls our office every few weeks to ask who the next Jerk of the Month is going to be. She had the uncanny ability to predict who would be receiving the award... and then she'd hang up. Recently she's been asking about the Wyatt Family and well Rachel, this one's for you. Enjoy!

PAIGE
2/6/14
Since Paige is such newbie we only worked with her a few times. Working with new talent for the first time was always a blast.

NEW AGE OUTLAWS
11/3/14
It was a treat to have The New Age Outlaws on set. They were hilarious, and acted like an old married couple. Total pros!

We photographed Paige for her first poster that would have run in the November 2014 issue.

OUR FAVOURITE PHOTOGRAPHY

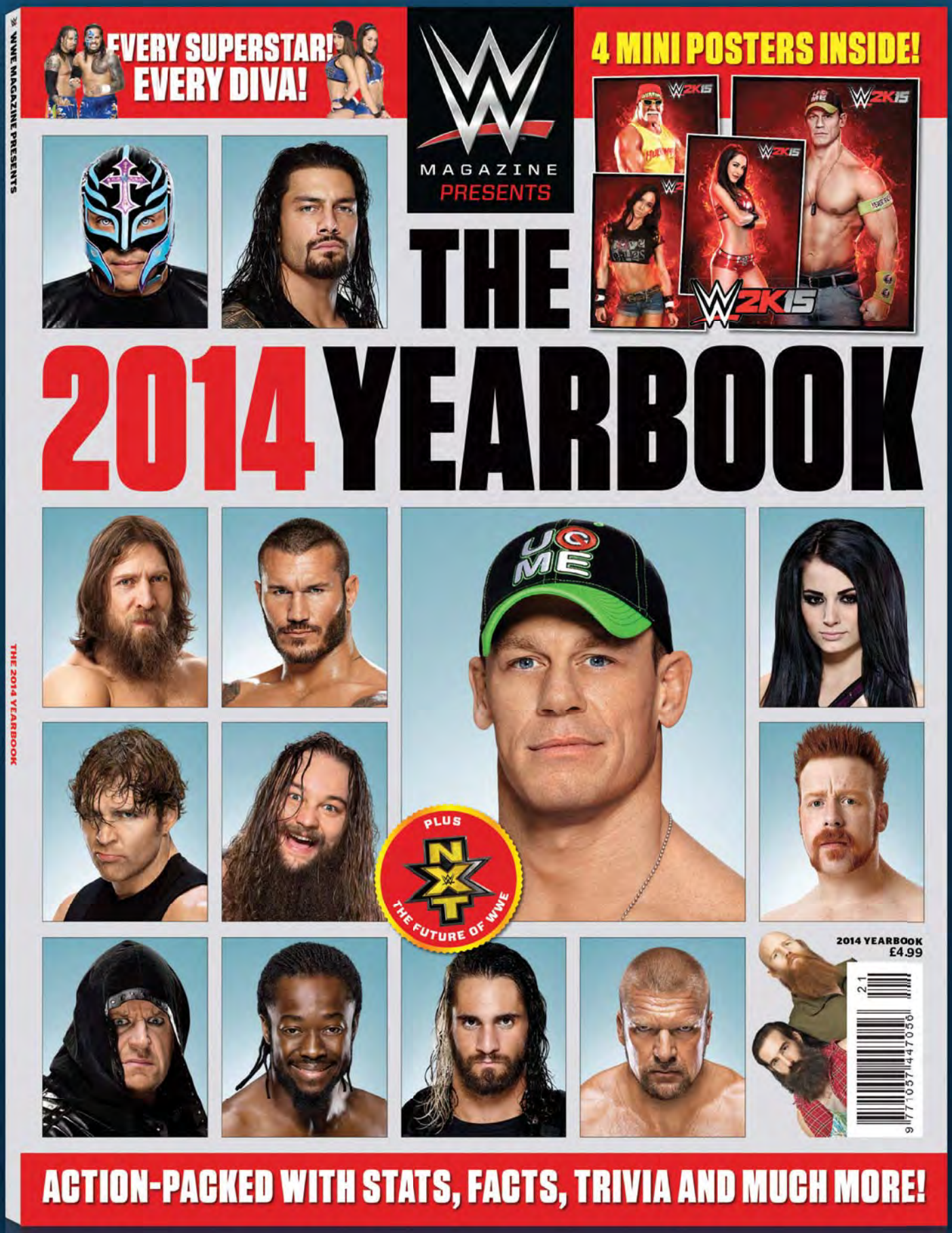
Sometimes a good photograph captures the subject or tells the story better than any words can. Our goal was always to catch lasting and iconic images of the Superstars and the Divas at that particular point in time like these shots.

DIVAPOCALYPSE
FEBRUARY 2012

BEST OF THE BEST
JUNE 2012

YOU'RE RIGHT, I'M WRONG
JUNE 2013

THE TRUTH...
APRIL 2013


EVERY SUPERSTAR!
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THE 2014 YEARBOOK

ON SALE NOW!

WHO WILL BE THE FIRST TO CAPTURE GOLD?

The Shield forever changed the WWE landscape while together, but with their unique styles and dedication, Roman Reigns, Seth Rollins and Dean Ambrose will be just as successful apart. But who will be the Shawn to the other two's Marty? As these three Superstars go off on their solo careers, look back at the successes of some of sports-entertainment's most legendary teams and how they fared after the split.

BELIEVE IN REIGNS

ROMAN REIGNS

A member of the legendary Anoa'i wrestling family, Roman Reigns was born to be champion. At the 2014 *Royal Rumble*, Reigns proved he could stand on his own by becoming the runner-up in the match, eliminating 12 men in the process. That heartbreaking defeat only made the powerhouse hungrier. Taking down former champions such as Randy Orton, The Undertaker and Triple H with powerful spears, Reigns has proven that it only takes one to cement his victory.

THE ROCKERS

Shawn Michaels and Marty Jannetty
1986 - 1992

• Six years of rocking the tag division ended with one Superkick and a barbershop window when Shawn Michaels turned on Marty Jannetty. As HBK climbed up the WWE ladder, winning the Intercontinental Championship within a year of the split and adding Sherri Martel to his corner, Jannetty struggled alone, leaving and re-signing with WWE in 1992, 1993 and 1994.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Won the Tag Team Titles in October 1990, but the match was dropped from the record books

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Michaels— WWE Hall of Famer, Grand Slam Champion, four-time World Champion, two-time Royal Rumble winner, and Mr. *WrestleMania*

Jannetty—Intercontinental Champion and Tag Team Champion

THE STEINERS

Scott and Rick Steiner
1989 - 1998

• The Steiners dominated WWE and WCW in the '90s with their repertoire of double-team moves. But the allure of The New World Order runs deeper than blood. Scott turned on Rich, and threw on The nWo's black-and-white, sparking a World Championship career while his bro teamed with Judy Bagwell—aka Buff's mom.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Two-time WWE World Tag Team Champions and seven-time WCW Tag Team Champions

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Scott—WCW World Heavyweight Champion, U.S. Champion, and returned to WWE in 2002.

Rick— Three-time Television Champion, U.S. Champion, and WCW Tag Team Champion

MONEY IN THE BANK WINNER

SETH ROLLINS

Only two Money in the Bank winners have cashed in their contracts and failed to win a World Championship—John Cena and Damien Sandow. Neither had the support of The Authority in their corner, though, to ensure their Superstar of choice prevailed. Seth Rollins can challenge for the WWE World Heavyweight Championship whenever he pleases, stacking the odds in his favor to become the first Hound of Justice to capture a World Title. He just needs to pick his best spot.

THE APA

Ron Simmons and Bradshaw
1998 - 2004

• Bradshaw and Ron Simmons stood by each other's side through The Attitude Era—from serving as The Undertaker's Acolytes to doubling as WWE's paid mercenaries and poker game hosts. But when Paul Heyman fired Simmons, Bradshaw recreated himself. Redubbed JBL, Bradshaw reigned over *SmackDown* as WWE Champ while Simmons watched from retirement.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Three-time World Tag Team Champions

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Ron Simmons—WWE Hall of Famer and yelled "Damn!" an infinite number of times

Bradshaw—280-day WWE Championship reign, U.S. Champion, Intercontinental Champion, owner of a white limousine, and self-proclaimed "Wrestling god"

MIZ AND MORRISON

The Miz and John Morrison
2007 - 2009

• After two years of being part of "The In Crowd," developing "The Dirt Sheet," and holding the WWE Tag Team Championship, The Miz and John Morrison went their separate ways thanks to Miz's sneak attack. The Awesome One captured a World Title, and while Morrison still wowed the crowd for a couple years with his moves—and his abs—he left WWE in 2011.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
WWE Tag Team Champions, World Tag Team Champions, and two-time Slammy Award Winners

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
The Miz—WWE Champion, Mr. Money in the Bank, three-time Intercontinental Champion, two-time WWE World Tag Team Champion, and host of "Miz TV"

Morrison—Intercontinental Champion

HARLEM HEAT

Stevie Ray and Booker T
1993 - 2000

• A team of real life brothers Booker T and Stevie Ray, Harlem Heat held the WCW World Tag Team Championships a record 10 times in the '90s. Booker eventually left WCW a five-time World Champion to start his Hall of Fame career with WWE, where he now works as an announcer, and Stevie Ray formed Harlem Heat 2000 before retiring and joining the commentary desk.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
10-time WCW Tag Team Champions

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Ray—formed the ill-fated Harlem Heat 2000 and became *WCW Thunder* commentator

Booker T—WWE Hall of Famer, World Heavyweight Champion, five-time WCW Champion, King of the Ring, and *SmackDown* General Manager

HART FOUNDATION

Bret Hart and Jim Neidhart
1985 - 1991

• The third-longest-reigning World Tag Team Champions (483 days) in WWE history, Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart and Bret Hart came from Calgary and took WWE by storm. They held the WWE Tag Team Championships twice before Bret became The Excellence of Execution and "The Anvil" joined forces with Bret's younger brother, Owen.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Two-time WWE Tag Team Champions

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Hart— WWE Hall of Famer, Triple Crown Champion, five-time WWE Champion, WCW World Heavyweight Champion, two-time King of the Ring, and the best there is/was/ever will be

Neidhart—Formed New Hart Foundation

TEAM XTREME

Matt Hardy, Jeff Hardy and Lita
1998 - 2002, 2006-2009

• The trio burst onto the scene in the '90s thanks to their high-risk style and racked up seven Tag Championship reigns until envy drove them apart. Matt found success on his own, but Jeff was the standout star of the group, capturing three-World Championships. Only Lita has heard the call from the WWE Hall of Fame, though.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Six-time World Tag Team Champions and WCW Tag Team Champions

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Matt—ECW Champion and U.S. Champ

Jeff—Grand Slam Champion and three-time World Champion

Lita—WWE Hall of Famer and four-time Women's Champion

EDGE AND CHRISTIAN

1998 - 2001

• Originally members of The Brood, lifelong best bros Edge and Christian became staples, and ladder experts, of The Attitude Era. When Edge won the 2001 King of the Ring, though, Christian's jealousy ended this rad duo. Both Superstars found immense success, but Christian's first taste of World Title gold didn't come until after Edge retired.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Seven-time World Tag Team Champions and "Five-second Pose" inventors

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Edge—WWE Hall of Famer, 11-time World Champion, Royal Rumble winner, Mr. Money in the Bank, five-time Intercontinental Champion

***Christian*—**Two-time World Champion and four-time Intercontinental Champion

NATION OF DOMINATION

Faarooq, The Rock, D'Lo Brown, Godfather, Mark Henry, and Owen Hart
1997 - 1998

• The Nation began a quest for dominance during The Attitude Era under Faarooq's leadership. But the up-and-coming Rock took control of the group, kicking Faarooq out in the process. After a memorable rivalry with the Triple H-led D-Generation X, the group disbanded when The Rock's popularity started to reach Great One status.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOGETHER:
Intercontinental Champion (The Rock) and European Champion (D'Lo Brown)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS APART:
Farooq—WWE Hall of Famer
Rock—10-time World Champion
Brown—Euro-Continental Champion
Henry—World Heavyweight Champion and ECW Champion

SHOOT FIRST, ASK LATER

DEAN AMBROSE

Unlike Seth Rollins and Roman Reigns, Dean Ambrose carried solo championship gold before. While his brothers dominated WWE's tag team division, Ambrose reigned as United States Champion for 351 days, the longest tenure with the WWE iteration of the title. He only lost the red-white-and-blue title when The Authority forced him to defend it in a 20-Man Battle Royal. Ambrose takes advantage of any opportunities he sees and thrives on chaotic situations, so good luck stopping him from becoming champion.

LI'L KANE & 'TAKER IN:

The "Brothers of Destruction"

The (after)life and times of The Deadman and The Devil's Favourite Demon not only redefine "sibling rivalry" but manage to put that phrase in a coffin, light it on fire and bury it deep in the ground. To celebrate Undertaker and Kane's new home video release, we're taking a different look at their longstanding "relationship."

ROYAL RUMBLE 1998
Kane locks Undertaker in a casket and sets it on fire!

BADD BLOOD 1997
Kane makes his debut during the Hell in a Cell Match!!!

KING OF THE RING 1998
'Taker accidentally helps Kane win the title by chairing SCSA!

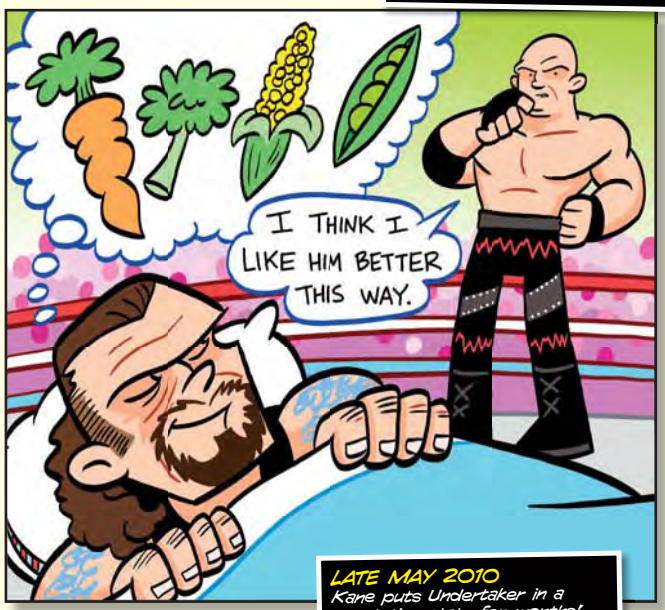
SMACKDOWN, 4/19/01
The Demonic Duo win their first World Tag Team Championship!

Illustrations by **ARTHUR BALTAZAR**

BROTHERS OF DESTRUCTION: GREATEST MATCHES
When 'Taker and Kane are on the same page, bad things happen. With that in mind, WWE put together a DVD of The BOD's finest bouts.

ON SALE NOW!

RAW, 3/11/13
The Undertaker and Kane pay tribute to Paul Bearer on Raw.



LATE MAY 2010
Kane puts Undertaker in a vegetative state for months!

SURVIVOR SERIES 2003
Kane buries The Undertaker alive at Survivor Series but...

WRESTLEMANIA XX
U.T. rises from the dead at 'Mania. Scaredy-Kane doesn't believe it!!!

photography by
JASON TANAKA BLANEY

We pulled off a minor miracle in our February 2014 issue by getting six Superstars to sit around a table and discuss the backstage politics of WWE. This time we upped the ante by culling second- and third-generation Superstars and Divas—**Curtis Axel, Jimmy** and **Jey Uso, Natalya** and **Goldust**—for a candid conversation about the family business. What follows are the highlights (most insightful, some bizarre thanks to GD) of this rare discussion between the men and women who were born to wrestle.

ROUND #2

Other than The Usos, who at this table knew each other growing up?

JIMMY: We knew Goldie growing up!
NATALYA: We all knew Goldie...[*To Curtis*] Your mom used to send us Christmas cards. I have to bring those in, your mum has you in a turtleneck sweater.
CURTIS: There's one where we're all dressed up in Zubaz.
NATALYA: Oh yeah, I have that one! It was hilarious.
JIMMY: [*To Goldust*] Yeah, I remember we used to send you and your brother some Christmas cards.
GOLDUST: Cody never sent me any cards!

Less than 20 percent of the current roster is a second- or third-generation wrestler. Is that number too high or too low?

JIMMY: That number is too low; it's got to be higher than that.
JEY: It's going to be higher once our kids get in there. I'm going to have like eight kids in the business.
NATALYA: How many kids do you have now?
JEY: Two. So I have six more to go!
JIMMY: How many kids do you want, Nattie?
NATALYA: I don't know when we'll see what happens. I have three cats right now.
CURTIS: Which one of them is going to enter the business?
NATALYA: My dad's an ex-Superstar, so he's like a child to me that I have to take care of.
JIMMY: Our kids can do a little D-Generation X type of faction.
GOLDUST: I'm just siting here with a bunch of kids, jeez. What do you think, Nattie?
NATALYA: It's definitely too low, but then again, it's about quality not quantity. We're representing second- and third-generation and honestly we're delivering, maybe even better than our parents.

"THE LINEAGE IS DEFINITELY GOING TO KEEP GOING AFTER US. THERE'S A LOT OF YOUNG, LITTLE USOS OUT THERE THAT THE WORLD IS GOING TO GET TO KNOW..."

—JEY USO

PROP STYLING BY MARK DELPRA

"My dad taught me to never give up and keep on going. And look where I am now."

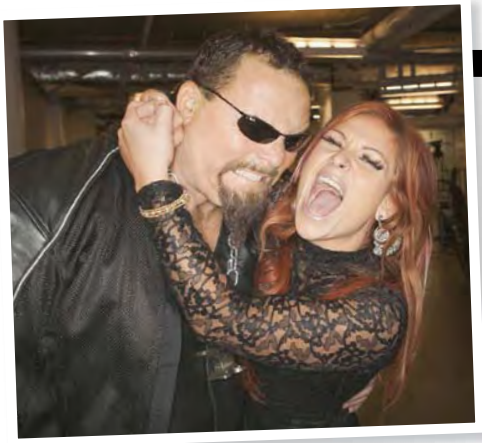
—CURTIS AXEL

Who has more pressure to succeed? Second- and third-generation stars like you or talent coming off the independent circuit?

NATALYA: It's just hard to succeed in this business in general, but if you come from a family that has been great here before, you've got to be better than them. You're always living up to these expectations and you have to be better than them.
CURTIS: Especially if your dad's name is Mr. Perfect.
NATALYA: My daddy wore pink spandex and I have to follow those genetics!
JIMMY: My daddy wore a thong!
GOLDUST: My daddy wore polka dots!
NATALYA: So we all have big thongs, boots and shoes to fill.
JIMMY: I don't think we can fill this thong, though, it's way too big.
CURTIS: There are two of you, so you should be good.
JIMMY: You might be right, dude.
NATALYA: No matter where you come from, everybody has their own journey, you have to pave your own way. I feel like for us, our family has done stuff here before and we don't have a clean slate.

Does nepotism exist in sports-entertainment? If so, is that a bad thing?

CURTIS: Nepotism? What's that? [*Laughs.*] It's a blessing and a curse. Everyone knows who I am and where I came from. But we've got it a bit harder because we have to live up to the name. I have to live up to not only my father but also my grandfather.
GOLDUST: I don't think it's a bad thing, and yes, it definitely exists in sports-entertainment.
JEY: In a way it does, because some guys look at it like maybe they show favouritism to second- and third-generation members of the roster, but that's in every type of competition.
JIMMY: Yeah, the same thing that my brother said. But following in our family's footsteps, it even raises the bar a little more for us to actually show that we can go in the ring and pull our own weight and that we're not here just because our dad was here.
NATALYA: I don't really think so. Here, in WWE, it's based on how hard you work. I've never gotten anything easy or anything handed to me based on who my dad is. Sometimes it works against you because your family had bad relations or there were issues in the past. Not only that, but when you're from a wrestling family, you have big shoes to fill and people have high expectations for you. It took me five years to get hired by WWE, but, all of the other girls that I've met it's never taken them that long.



"We're representing the second- and third-generation, and honestly, we're delivering, maybe even better than our parents."

—NATALYA

Do you have any other siblings? And, what do you think it was that drew you to the family business and not them?

JEY: There are six brothers and one sister. The lineage is definitely going to keep going after us. There's a lot of young, little Usos out there that the world is going to get to know, whether it's in football, acting, or wrestling. The family is talented.

JIMMY: We actually have a bunch of little cousins who were bit by the bug and are doing it now, too. Look out for them in five or 10 years from now.

CURTIS: I have two sisters and a brother. I'm the oldest. My sister, who's the oldest after me, trained with Harley Race. She never got an opportunity to go to developmental, though. She reminds me a lot of Nattie. My brother just turned 22 years old and sometimes he shows some interest.

GOLDUST: I have three younger sisters and Cody, of course. My sisters never really showed any interest in being in the ring; they showed interest in doing some backstage stuff, but nothing ever happened with that. They all chose their own path and went their own way. Our dad protected us from it. He did not want me to get into the wrestling industry, but I was persistent. I had scholarships to play football in college, but I wanted to be a wrestler. I don't think that was a test to see if I really wanted to wrestler, I legitimately think that my dad did not want me to do this because of the hard life that he was living. It's very tough on the road being away from your family and it is not for everyone. I miss being home now in my older age; I miss my daughter and my wife, but I'm out here making a living and they understand.

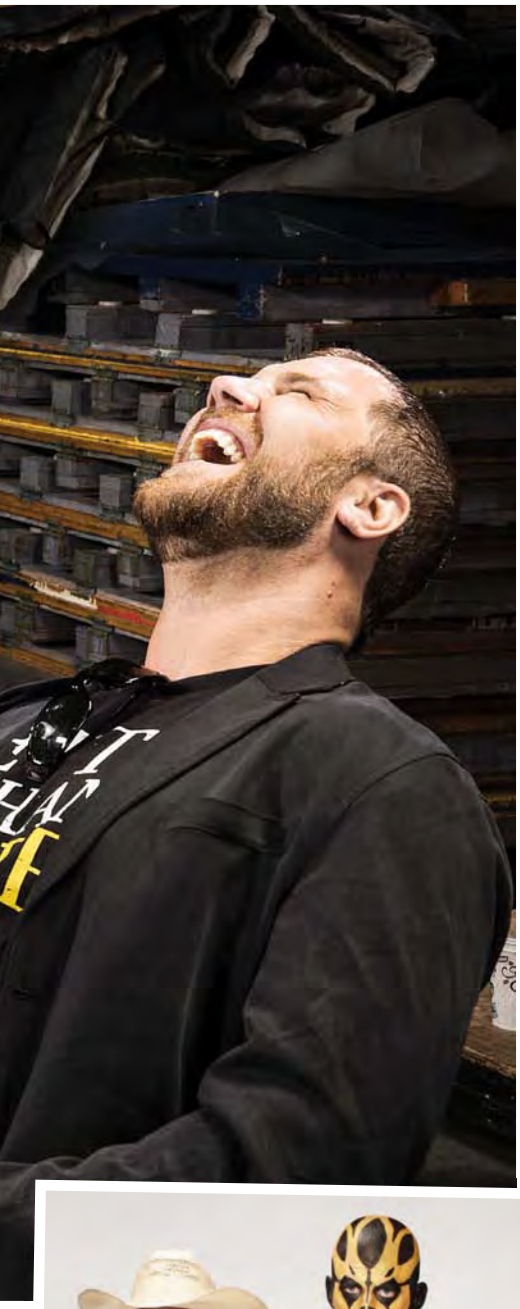
NATALYA: I have an older sister and a younger sister. We never really discussed them wrestling. I know their personalities and it's just not something that they are into. It's not something that everyone can do; just because you grow up around something it doesn't mean that you should be involved with it. You have to really want it, you have to be driven and have discipline.

Do children of Superstars have a better understanding of one another? Is there a bond?

CURTIS: Our dads were all gone 300 days a year so, yeah sure.

JIMMY: We're actually with each other more than our families sometimes.

NATLAYA: I think we connect better because



we have been through this since we were kids and we know the ups and downs and in-betweens.

Was there ever any point in your life where wrestling was the absolute last thing that you could ever see yourselves doing? What was it that changed your mind?

GOLDUST: Absolutely not, I knew it right off the bat that I was made for this because it's in my blood.
JEY: No because growing up we knew that we wanted to wrestle. But as far as from a reality standpoint, yeah as soon as we saw that there were no Samoans in the game anymore, no one in the Anoi'a/Fatu family to give the torch to us.
JIMMY: Wrestling was always something that we wanted to do. We wanted to play sports, especially football. If there was nothing else for us to do, we knew that we could definitely get into wrestling and definitely showcase our athleticism and sportsmanship.
NATALYA: It really just kind of evolved for me, I was around it my entire life, we talked about it everyday, watched it everyday; we sleep, breathe and eat WWE. When I was 5 or 6 years old, there wasn't a Divas Division, not the way it is now. There were managers and odd women's matches with Wendi Richter, Sensational Sherri, and Miss Elizabeth. Then Sable, Sunny, Lita and Trish started to move on when I was a teenager. For me, when I got older, I thought that I maybe wanted to do this because I was always athletic, very dramatic and when I was 18, I fell in love with it and started training in the Dungeon. I think that I've always wanted to be around it because when I was in a WWE arena it always felt like home to me. In some way, shape or form I think I would've always been around it.
CURTIS: There might have been times but there was never a point where I absolutely didn't want to do it. My dad didn't want me to do it, though. There were times when I thought I should listen to him and figure something else out.

Advice about WWE your father gave you?

CURTIS: Growing up, when I was wrestling in high school my coach was kind of a jerk. He'd bust my ass way harder than the other kids and there was a point when I wanted to quit. My dad taught me to never give up and keep on going. And look where I am now.
GOLDUST: Keep your head down and your nose clean, and keep your head out of the radar but your head above water.
JEY: Stay humble and stay hungry.
JIMMY: Yeah, and especially to have fun, and always look out for your brother because we're in here together—we're doing this together.
NATALYA: My dad would always tell me to relax and have fun. When you relax and have fun, you are reminded of what an extraordinary job it is and my dad is right. It's very simple advice, but if you relax and take your time in the ring, then you have control.

Does your father still have anything left to teach you?

JEY: You've got to keep learning; you never stop learning in this business. Take everything for what it's worth but never stop learning.
NATALYA: Yeah, everyday you grow, learn and evolve. Even today he critiques me on my matches and even my ring gear.
GOLDUST: If I need advice, I'll go ask him. If I'm frustrated with something, I'll go to him. He has a different spin on things and can pretty much explain it in a way that works for me. He gave to me his whole life and now it's my turn to give back to him.

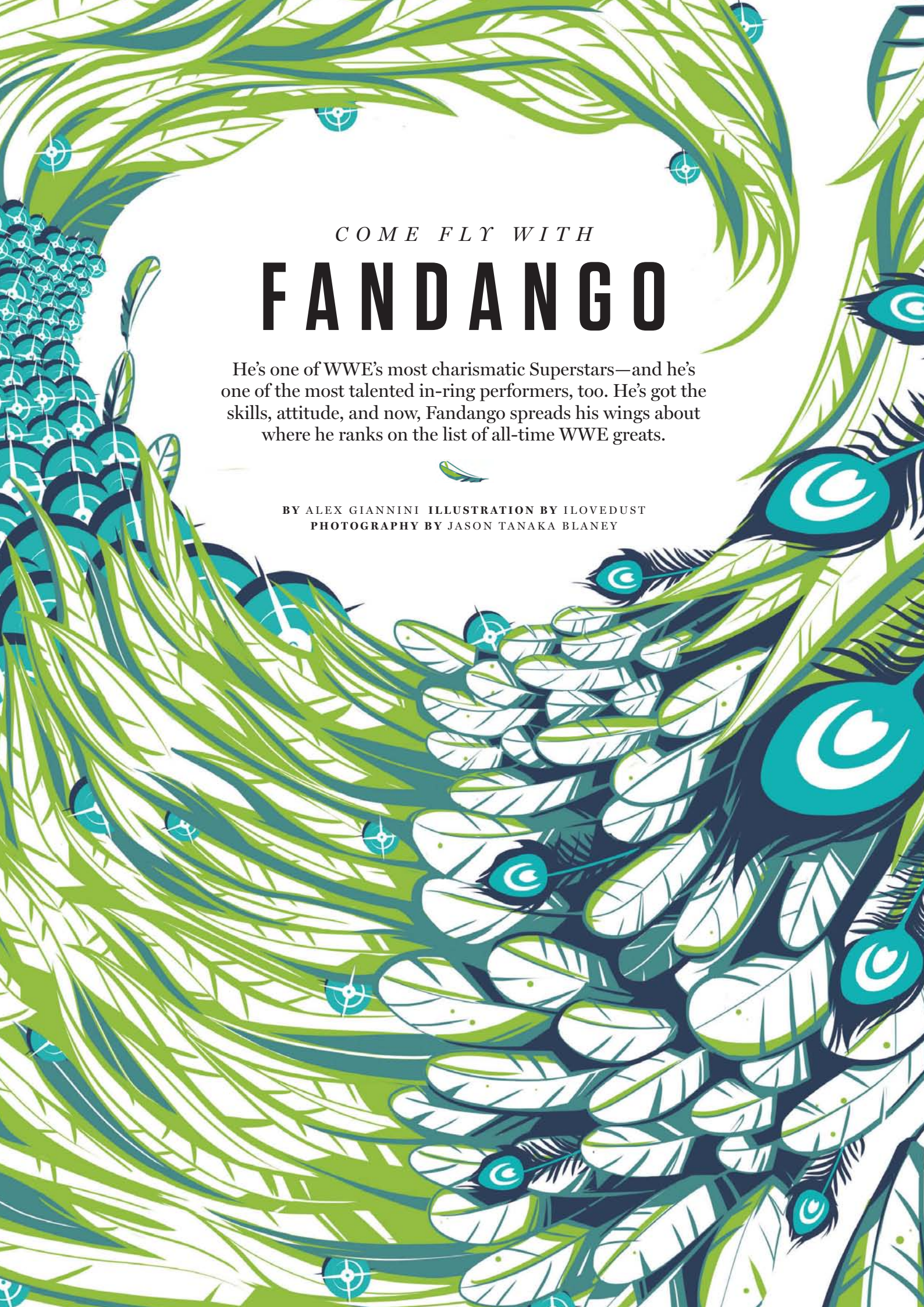
"I LEGITIMATELY THINK THAT MY DAD DID NOT WANT ME TO DO THIS BECAUSE OF THE HARD LIFE THAT HE WAS LIVING. IT'S VERY TOUGH ON THE ROAD BEING AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY AND IT IS NOT FOR EVERYONE." —GOLDUST

COME FLY WITH

FANDANGO

He's one of WWE's most charismatic Superstars—and he's one of the most talented in-ring performers, too. He's got the skills, attitude, and now, Fandango spreads his wings about where he ranks on the list of all-time WWE greats.

BY ALEX GIANNINI **ILLUSTRATION BY** ILOVEDUST
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON TANAKA BLANEY



Let's start by talking about the past year of your life in WWE. In your *'Mania*—and sports-entertainment—debut, you defeated Chris Jericho. Take us back to that match, and what it felt like to be propelled into the spotlight.
At the time, I had been wrestling for fourteen years and I felt pretty comfortable in the ring at *WrestleMania* 29. I'm not the type of guy who will get nervous before a match. I was a lot more nervous about remembering my dance routine during my entrance than about the actual match.

In what ways has your career changed from that moment?
After *WrestleMania* I got on a pretty good roll. I had the rematch against Chris [Jericho] at *Extreme Rules*, followed by matches against The Miz and Bad News Barrett for the Intercontinental Championship. Then I got concussed and that really set me back last summer. Coming back from the injury had its ups and downs. But over the last two or three months, we've really hit a good stride with all the Summer Rae and Layla drama.

How has the locker room accepted Fandango?
They're entertained by Fandango. Fandango is a fun character to have around; I entertain the guys and they really enjoy watching me in action. Who do you want to hang out with—the guy with glittery pants that's showboating or just the guy being the quiet one in the corner?

On that note, what's the most fun part about being Fandango?
That I can go out there every night, make a complete fool of myself and not have a care in the world (laughs).

Where does Fandango rank on the list of all-time WWE greats?
Seventh.

Be honest, has Fandango ever been rejected by a woman?
[*Long pause.*] That's the dumbest question that I have ever been asked. C'mon. Me replying to that question would be a waste of my time. Me even talking right now to say that I'm not going to reply to that question is a waste of my time. You can write that down. Write that down.

What's the biggest difference between Layla and Summer Rae?
One is blond, the other is brunette. Most importantly, Summer likes to sleep in; Layla likes to get up early.

What's the biggest mistake Fandango has ever made?
Trusting two girls at once.

Who is Fandango's favourite singer?
Yanni.

Who do you want to hang out with—the guy with glittery pants that's showboating or just the guy being the quiet one in the corner?

FANDANGO ON FANDANGO

Yanni? Really?
Yeah, I think so.

What is your ultimate goal in WWE?
To be WWE World Heavyweight Champion, of course! If you don't want to be WWE World Heavyweight Champion, then why the hell are you doing this?

So far, what has been your most memorable moment?
The night after *WrestleMania* last year. Definitely. I had a match against Kofi Kingston, then Chris Jericho came out and beat the hell out of me. The European fans really made me that night [with their reaction].

Do you deliver the best top-rope legdrop in WWE history?
Well, who else can we compare Fandango to? John Cena does it, kind of, in a certain way. Grand Master Sexay. I definitely do it better than him. Yeah, definitely, Fandango hits the best top-rope legdrop in history.

Why do you use the legdrop as your finishing move?
Because it has style and grace. And it was initially the finisher I used when I started wrestling. Then I stopped using it for a while because it's bad for your back. But I wanted something that was over the top, kind of flamboyant—a move that I could just showboat on the top rope, and shine like a star.

How do you get to that point where you're comfortable in front of a camera—something that's such a crucial aspect of being a WWE Superstar?
Unless you're a complete introvert—which if you are, you're in the completely wrong business—it's just like wrestling, you know? Obviously, my first matches weren't as good as the matches I have now, because I've been

GROOMING BY HILLARY FENTON

doing it a lot longer. And the more times you get in front of the camera, the more times you can speak and create a personality. It's a lot easier to pretend to be someone else—it's a lot easier to play a character than it is to play yourself. If you look at [promos by] someone like Santino Marella, you can't even tell when he messes up. As long as you commit to it, it's just like anything else. Repetition and practice are key.

How much of you is in the Fandango character?
I'd say an overwhelming majority. Since I've made my debut, I've been taking a lot of his mannerisms and attributes.

Anything else you'd like to add?
This year is going to be Fandango's year. The year 2013 was obviously really good, but 2014 is going to be even better. There's still a few months left.

DANCING WITH THE SUPERSTARS

While the Superstars are always fighting for a place on the pay-per-view card, in WWE there always seems to be plenty of room on the dance card. But which hoofer has what it takes to step up to the top spot as WWE's best dance man?

HOT

FANDANGO
Were you expecting Bastion Booger? Nope! It's our man Faaaaandaaaaango taking the top spot with his sweet moves, gorgeous dance partners and shiny, shiny pants.

CHRIS JERICHO
Considering that he competed on Season 12 of *Dancing With The Stars*, Jericho has got some pretty awesome moves. Acting, singing, writing and dancing, Y2J can do it all!

TOO COOL & RIKISHI
This trio once stopped a Royal Rumble Match to dance. We know The Usos can bust a move like their old man, but is anyone willing to bring back The Worm?

R-TRUTH
Whether dancing during his entrance, a match, backstage, in the parking lot, in the ring or at your birthday party, R-Truth has got awesome moves. Plus he can spit rhymes!

SANTINO MARELLA
The Milan Miracle is no stranger to dance competitions, as he's competed with Superstars and Divas alike. We're pretty sure he single-handedly brought back "the running man."

THE MIZ
In one of the funniest moments in his career, Miz donned an afro and some flower power attire and christened himself: The Mizco Inferno. Maybe disco isn't dead after all?

BRODUS CLAY
The Funkasaurus made a *'Mania* moment when he called his momma...and apparently everyone else's as well for a Miami dance party! Then Xavier Woods borrowed his beats.

DUDE LOVE
The fun-loving ladies' man persona created by Mick Foley had average dancing skills, but he always made for a good time! Still better than watching him get amnesia in WCW.

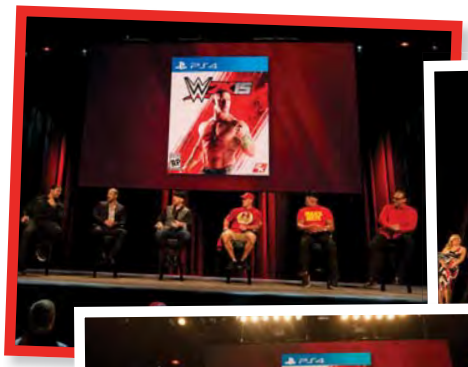
DANIEL BRYAN
Bryan is possibly the greatest wrestler alive today, but he is an awful dancer. Being able to dance with the entire Divas locker room requires skill, though. Men, take notes.

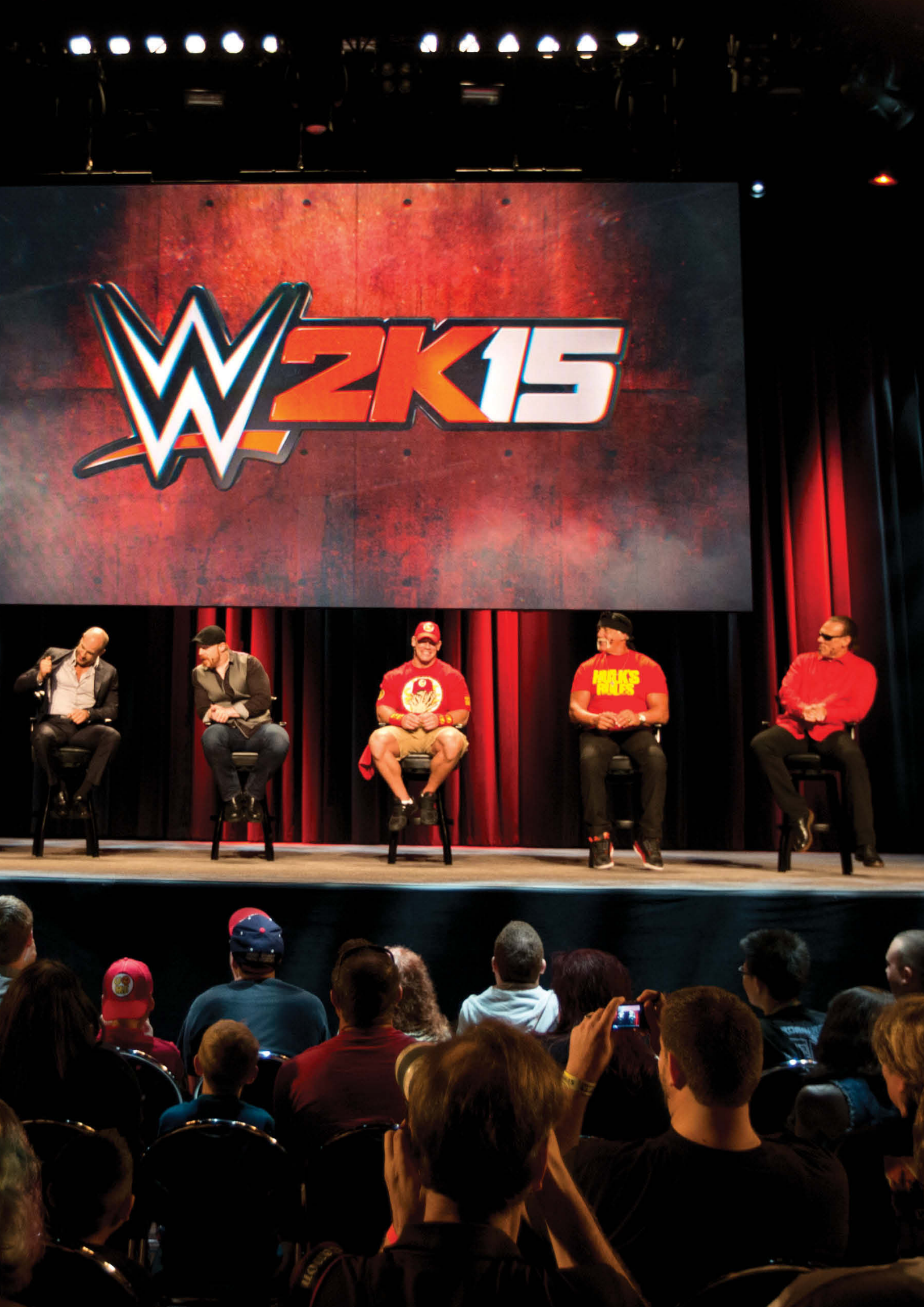
THE GREAT KHALI
Khali may be a fearsome sight, but beneath that tough exterior lies a man whose just aching to dance. He wears Hammer pants after all. Just please stop doing it in public!

NOT

WWE 2K15 SUPERSTAR PANEL

Every year at *SummerSlam* we expect two things – sizzling action in the ring and the roster reveal for the latest WWE video game offering! And trust us, it's not just WWE fans who get excited at this time of the year, the WWE Superstars themselves turn into big kids as they get their hands on the video game for the very first time. *WWE Magazine* was lucky enough to catch up with **"Stone Cold" Steve Austin, Roman Reigns, Cesaro, Sheamus, John Cena, Hulk Hogan** and **Sting** to find out their thoughts on *WWE 2K15*.




W2K15

First things first! John Cena, you're on the cover of *WWE 2K15*, how do you feel about that?

JOHN CENA: It's a great honour to be on the cover of *2K15* because this game is so advanced. WWE games have been criticised in the past because the graphics haven't been great even though the game play has always been fun. This year 2K has made the game completely real, just like they have done with the NBA games. To be on the cover for their first real offering to WWE games, where the graphics are so phenomenal, it's the real release of the new brand of WWE video games, and I think it was a great idea for them to choose me to front it!

STEVE AUSTIN: I can see it now, you're going to get the game and the first match that you're going to play is going to be John Cena vs. "Stone Cold" Steve Austin!

CENA: Well, I'd actually probably choose to be "Stone Cold" in that situation and I'd whip my own ass!

The graphics look amazing and a lot of that is down to more interaction with the Superstars themselves. What was it like to have so much involvement in the game this time around?

CESARO: Well, for a start I'm going to be the go-to guy for 2K when it comes to the European market. I've also been heavily involved in the motion capturing, so I did all of the moves that you see my character do in the video game. The Swing, The Neutraliser, my European Uppercut, moves that only I am capable of performing, I did these and now it's in the game. You wear a skin-tight divers suit with lots of little sensors on it and you get in the ring inside this big arena and they capture your motions. There are hundreds of cameras that capture every single movement and they digitally transfer that on to computers.

AUSTIN: Yeh, they turned up with this photo booth and I made all of these different faces - pain, smiling, mad, glad, everything but the kitchen sink. And they captured all of these for the new video game. So I'm a good-looking dude in real life, and in the video game I really am as good-looking as this!

SHEAMUS: With all of those cameras surrounding you it feels like you're stuck inside a 360 degree tanning booth, not that I would know what one of those looks like though!

What's the coolest part about seeing yourself in the game?

STING: You know what, it's awesome, and I'm humbled to be a part of *WWE 2K15*. For the first time ever I'm in a WWE game and I can have my all-time dream match, which is to face The Undertaker. I can also face Stone Cold Steve Austin in the game and he'll end up in the Death Lock or something like that.

SHEAMUS: I've been in a few of the games over the last couple of years but ever since I debuted in WWE it's been a real challenge for the video game teams to translate my skin tone as accurately as possible! Now when Superstars like Cesaro call me a pasty faced tea bag I can actually see it in my video game self. It's crazy we've just been backstage playing the game and it's like watching *Monday Night RAW* live. It's so cool watching how far these video games have come and how spot on the characters are now, you can't tell if you're watching the real Sheamus on TV or whether it's a game.

ROMAN REIGNS: It's really cool. I feel like just yesterday I was down in developmental grinding day in and day out and to be here now just feels surreal. I've got this picture of me at my Mum's house with The Hulkster holding me when I was a little guy. So to be in the game I just couldn't ask for anything more. It's a real feel good moment for me. As a gamer, the realism of the game, and I'm not just talking about the graphics, it's crazy how it feels and plays so real. As Sheamus says, it really does feel like *Monday Night RAW* and it's a great opportunity to be part of it.

The fans play a massive part in WWE and in *WWE 2K15* they're more prominent than ever before, they even jeer the Superstars! Do they get under your skin in real life?

CENA: Fans enjoy WWE and they come to the live events to say and shout what they want, so if they enjoy me or not that's fine, that's what the fans are supposed to do.

HOGAN: When I first started I didn't understand it, and then I kind of got to the point where I expected the craziness, and deep down all of the fans mean well. People get over excited and aggressive because they're in that moment. You get to the moment in your career when you're thankful that it's still happening, if the crowds aren't making any noise, you're not doing your job. The fans really are so loyal.

SHEAMUS: As long as there is no silence in the crowd they can cheer about whatever they want, as long as they're having a good time. Without the crowd and the WWE Universe we'd be nothing. So we're very grateful to them.

CESARO: I'm very passionate about wrestling and so are the fans and because we share this same passion the fans will never get to me because we want the same thing.

REIGNS: WWE fans pay their hard earned money to come to the events and we just ask that they are as loud as they can be, just like in the game!

"WWE FANS DESERVE THE BEST AND WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO WWE VIDEO GAMES, AND THE ADVANCES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, WHAT 2K HAVE DONE WITH *WWE 2K15* MAKE IT A REAL HONOUR FOR ME TO BE PART OF IT."

— "STONE COLD" STEVE AUSTIN

"Hulk Hogan turned me into a fan at a young age and since then I've lived by the philosophy of hard work. I totally stand by him and he is my role model."

—JOHN CENA ON THE STAR OF THE HULKAMANIA EDITION OF *WWE 2K15*

Hulkster, it's great to see you in the game, tell us a bit about the Hulkamania edition of the game?

HOGAN: Well, 2K came to me and told me that they wanted to make a special edition of *WWE 2K15*. So I'm sitting at home and this truck turns up with all of these boxes with 25,000 of these 5x7 cards that I need to sign! They were these high gloss cards and I couldn't separate them because they were like magnetic, so I had to create some sort of assembly line to try and sign these things. I got through the first thousand and damn I was worn out so I called the office and asked if anyone had ever done something like this before? And yeh, they said some guy called "Stone Cold" Steve Austin and a guy by the name of The Undertaker had. I wanted to know how long it took both of them to do it so I could have a timeline on both of their asses and I was hell bent on beating both of them to signing all 25,000. So this special edition version of the game will get one of these cards that I personally signed myself. And I can't wait to play the game and drop my leg on every single one of the Superstars on the roster!

WWE 2K15 allows some fantastic fantasy match-up possibilities. Past or present, who would be your perfect opponent?

REIGNS: I'd have to go with "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, I've been in the ring with Undertaker and that was amazing. Austin would be up there for me.

CESARO: I'm not big on nostalgia and what could have and may happen, but people playing the game can do that. But right now I'll take on the WWE champion. If you're here in WWE it's all about being the champion, and if you don't think you've got what it takes you really shouldn't be here and I know that I have what it takes.

SHEAMUS: I would have to go with "Macho Man" Randy Savage. When he came on the screen when I was a kid he was the first Superstar to really catch my attention. He made me want to follow my dream.

CENA: Vince McMahon, I would love to challenge him. "Stone Cold" and Hulk Hogan have both had him in the ring and I want that opportunity, I'd love to get the boss in there for just one round.

STING: Well, obviously Undertaker, he's always going to be first on my list. Triple H would be a great match and he's someone I've always wanted to face and "Stone Cold" Steve Austin. I've seen and heard so many amazing things about Shawn Michaels, so I'd love to step in the ring with him too. There really are just too many!

HOGAN: I've had a match with The Undertaker in real life and I don't want another one,

I've had enough! If I really had to choose it would be against John Cena.

So we know who your ideal opponent is going to be, but if you could team up with any other Superstar in the game and strive to become WWE tag team champions with them, who are you going to choose at your side?

STING: Damn! Not Undertaker! I think I'll have to go with John Cena
HOGAN: It's John Cena for me too.
CENA: I'll team up with Cesaro because we both share the same strategy of being strong, and he's much smarter than me too!
SHEAMUS: As much as we can't stand each other, standing on that apron and watching him swinging people around, it would make my day to team up with Cesaro.
CESARO: I would have said Jack Swagger a while ago as I think that we're the best team never to hold the tag team title, but surprising as it is, I would also say Sheamus because he is one of the most annoying people to be in the ring with and I want to share that with all of my opponents!
REIGNS: I'd have to go with my dream partner Dean Ambrose.

The Rivalries Mode in the game will see Triple H and Shawn Michaels square up, but who has been your greatest rivalry to date?

STING: There are two, obviously it's Ric Flair and Hulk Hogan. Ric and I had great chemistry and trust between us and there was a bit of magic there all the way up to our last match in Panama City. And some of the biggest stuff I ever did was with Hulk and it was so good because the red and the yellow disappeared and "Hollywood" Hogan emerged at the same time that Surfer Sting went and Crow Sting emerged. That was magic too.
HOGAN: I've also got two. "Macho Man" Randy Savage was a real trip and he was like that twenty-four hours a day, he was stiff, he was tough. And the other was Rowdy Roddy Piper, he just kept coming at me, he didn't know when to stop, we had some real wars. I would have loved to have done more with him, and in the game I can!
CENA: I'd maybe say Edge or Randy Orton. But honestly, I think my greatest rivalry has yet to be written.
SHEAMUS: As John Cena says, my greatest rivalry has yet to be written. I feel like a lot of my rivalries to date have been a bit stop start. I think Cesaro and I could go somewhere further down the line. In fact I'll happily start it right now! Two rivalries that stand out to me are Big Show, because I've never been in a ring with a competitor like that. He hit me with those frying pan sized hands and I was black and blue for weeks. But Daniel Bryan has been a great opponent for me. Danny Boy and I have great chemistry in the ring and we've had lots of ups and downs.
CESARO: It's not Fandango, I'm a much better dancer! My rivalry still needs to be written, but I keep having to remind Sheamus who the better European is!
REIGNS: The future is going to tell a lot because there are so many options as there are so many young talented guys out there. But at the moment I would have to say Randy Orton and Seth Rollins are down the road somewhere for me. I'd love to tango with John Cena once I've done with those guys. As part of The Shield I'd have to say that our feud with Evolution was pretty cool.

So we've mentioned some classic fantasy matches that you can play in the game, but let's get back to reality. Who on the *WWE 2K15* roster would be your ideal opponent at next year's *Wrestlemania*?

SHEAMUS: This year I was in the Andre The Giant Battle Royal, which Cesaro obviously won. I'd love to go one and one with Roman Reigns, we've had some great matches in the past. I'd be honoured to take on Hulk Hogan and have a leg dropped on me and I'd love to have a piece of Sting too.
CESARO: I could answer like Sheamus, but I'm going to say that I want to face whoever is the WWE Champion, I don't care who it is.
REIGNS: I'd have to agree with Cesaro and say that I'd like to face anybody who is holding the belt. But other than that I'd love to go up against 'Taker. Forget Brock Lesnar, forget The Streak, I just want The Undertaker.

THE WWE 2K15 ROSTER

AJ Lee | Alberto Del Rio
Bad News Barrett | Batista
Big E | Big Show
Booker T | Bray Wyatt
Brie Bella | Brock Lesnar
Cameron | Cesaro
Chris Jericho | CM Punk
Cody Rhodes | Curtis Axel
Damien Sandow
Daniel Bryan | Darren Young
Dean Ambrose
Dolph Ziggler | Erick Rowan
Fandango | Goldust
Hulk Hogan
"Hollywood" Hulk Hogan
Jack Swagger | Jey Uso
Jimmy Uso | John Cena
Justin Gabriel | Kane
Kevin Nash | Kofi Kingston
Luke Harper | Mark Henry
Naomi | Natalya
Nikki Bella | R-Truth
Randy Orton | Rey Mysterio
Ric Flair | Rob Van Dam
Roman Reigns | Ryback
Santino Marella
Seth Rollins
Shawn Michaels | Sheamus
"Stone Cold" Steve Austin
Sting (80s) | Sting (modern)
Summer Rae | Tamina
The Miz | The Rock
The Undertaker | Titus O'Neil
Triple H | Tyson Kidd
Xavier Woods

More names to be added soon...

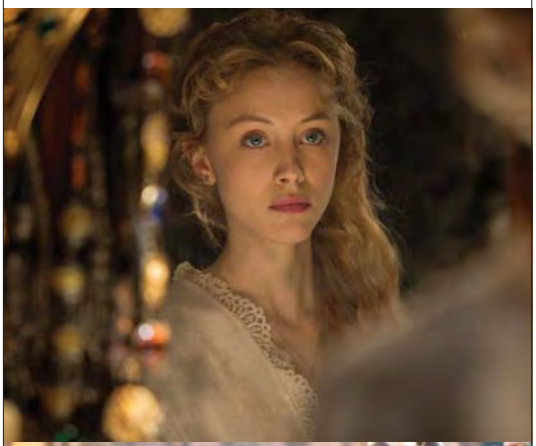
REVIEWS

+ A LOOK AT THE NEWEST MOVIES, LATEST DVDS & MOST AWESOME GAMES

DRACULA UNTOLD

UNIVERSAL PICTURES [TBC]

Dracula Untold goes back to the beginning of the Dracula legend. Weaving true history with myth, it follows the adventures of the great warrior Vlad the Impaler (Luke Evans) who is fiercely protective of his family and will go to great lengths to keep them safe. Even if that means striking a dark deal, one that will see him make grave sacrifices for the sake of his people...



INTERSTELLAR

WARNER BROS. PICTURES [TBC]

As humanity faces extinction, a loving father of two (Matthew McConaughey) is convinced to take part in an interstellar mission along with a team of intrepid explorers. Through a newly-discovered wormhole these brave souls surpass the limitations on human space travel allowing them to travel vast distances. But with time running out and food supplies dwindling on Earth they must return safely and more importantly successfully.

FURY

COLUMBIA PICTURES [TBC]

Set during the dying days of the Second World War, *Fury* follows a team of Allied soldiers who venture behind enemy lines into the heart of Nazi territory on a final charge. Led by a fierce army sergeant named Wardaddy (Brad Pitt), an exhausted tank unit set off on a difficult, high-stake mission that will see them outnumbered by a desperate German opposition and fighting against the odds to succeed.

THE JUDGE

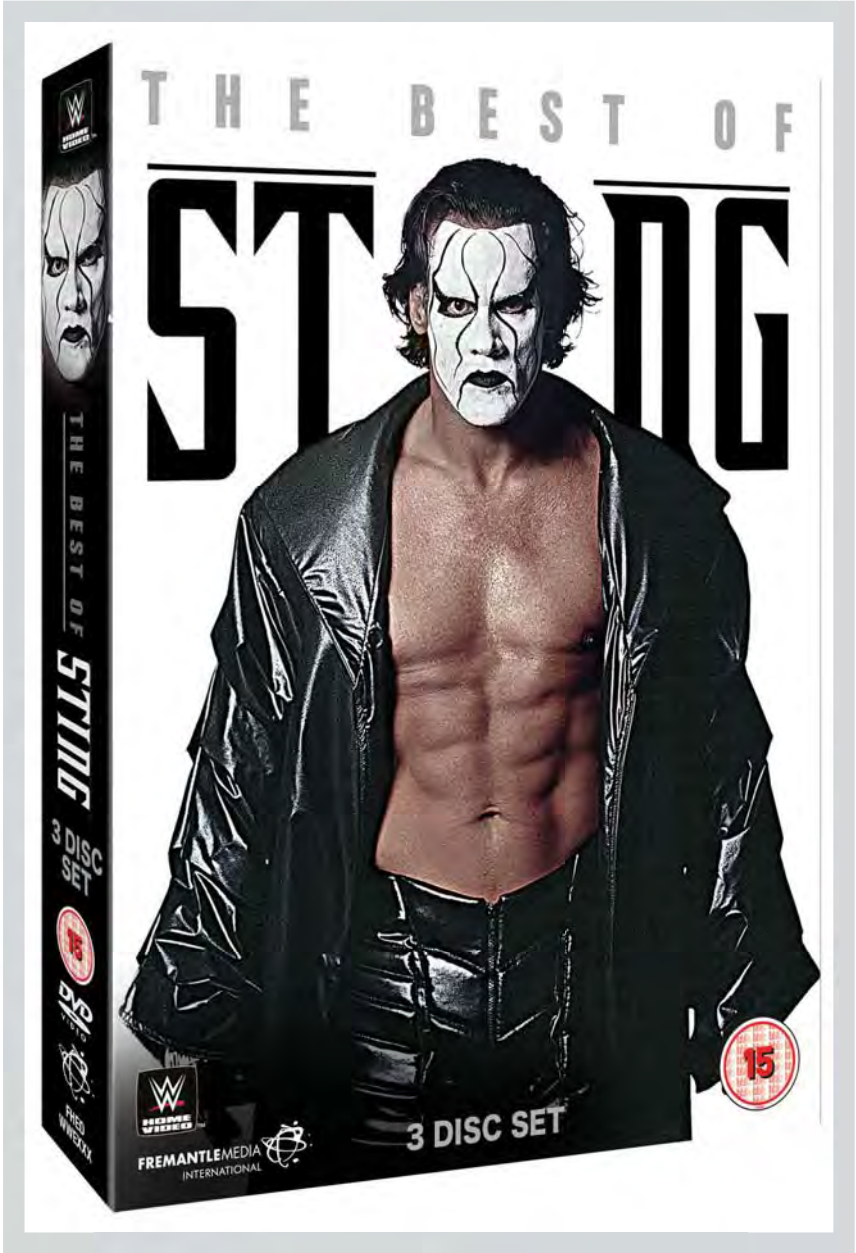
WARNER BROS. PICTURES [TBC]

The Judge sees Hank Palmer (Robert Downey Jr.) playing a hotshot defence attorney who returns home for a family funeral only to discover that his father stands accused of murder. To make matters worse, his estranged father also happens to be the town judge. Reunited with his family for the first time in years, his arrival stirs up old feuds and tensions between Hank and his father. Despite their frosty relationship, Hank agrees to defend his father in court and hopefully prove his innocence.

GRIMM SEASON 3

WWW.PLAY.COM [TBC]

Portland homicide detective Nick Burkhardt is back – but not exactly himself – as *Grimm* returns for another 22 hair-raising episodes. With his abilities manifesting in new and unusual ways, Nick is stronger than ever with his partner, Hank, and reunited love, Juliette, by his side as he tracks down Wesen criminals with renewed determination. But things are changing all around him. As Captain Renard embroils himself with the birth of a royal child and Monroe and Rosalee's relationship intensifies, the ties between humans and the Wesen world will become even more irrevocably intertwined. Experience all the spine-tingling chills, sinister surprises and fabled creatures back-to-back and uninterrupted in *Grimm: Season Three.*



THE BEST OF STING

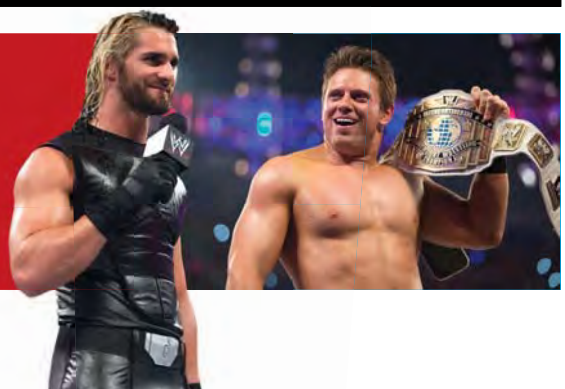
WWW.WWEDVD.CO.UK [15]

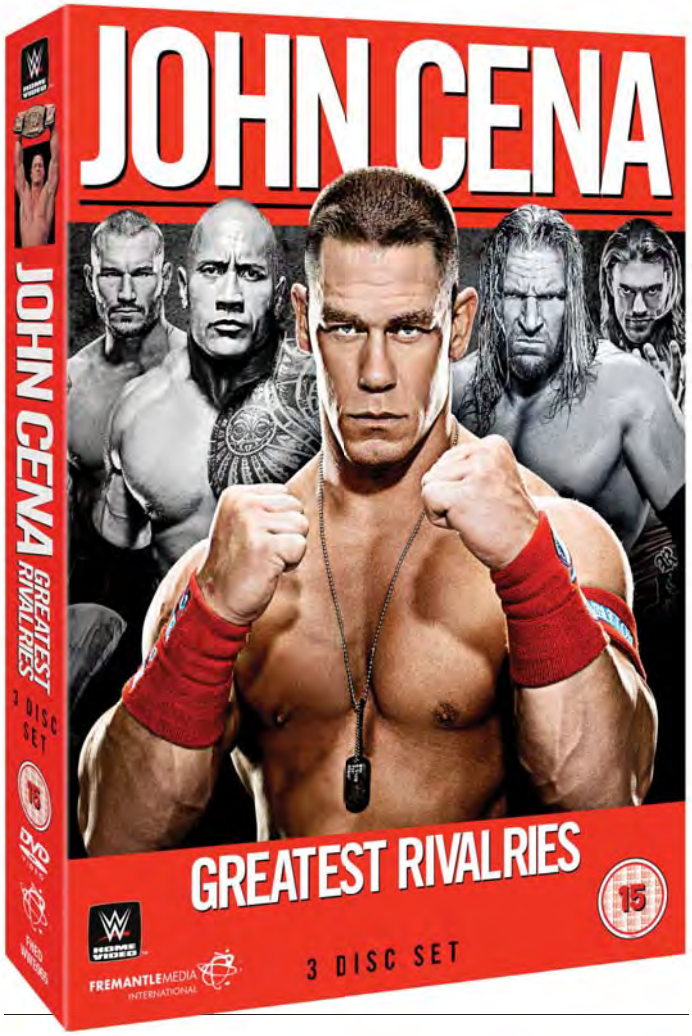
Against an army of shadows lies the dark warrior. The prevailer of good. With a voice of silence. And a mission of justice. This is Sting. The battle between good and evil cast a dark shadow over his soul, but through all transformations, one man remained the lone symbol of an era. Sting became "The Franchise" of WCW almost instantly when he arrived and carried the company's banner through to its final match in 2001. Whether casting his piercing war cry into the sky, or descending from it with somber, stone faced determination, Sting captivated wrestling fans from all walks of life. Now, celebrate The Icon with this collection of matches and moments guaranteed to strike fear into the black hearts of all evildoers.

COMPETITION!

TO CELEBRATE THE RELEASE OF* BATTLEGROUND *2014 ON DVD AND BLU-RAY WE'VE GOT FIVE COPIES OF THE DVD TO GIVE AWAY, COURTESY OF WWW.WWEDVD.CO.UK

TURN TO PAGE 89 FOR FULL COMPETITION ENTRY DETAILS





JOHN CENA GREATEST RIVALRIES

WWW.WWEDVD.CO.UK [15]

For the first time ever, relive all the classic feuds with John Cena himself as he gives insight into the rivalries that defined his WWE legacy. From his early confrontations with Eddie Guerrero and Chris Jericho, to career-defining battles with Shawn Michaels, JBL and Triple H, to his most recent conflicts with Batista, Randy Orton, and The Rock. Experience all of John Cena's greatest rivalries in this definitive collection and witness the evolution of John Cena into one of the greatest WWE Superstars of all time. Here's just a little bit of the action to get your juices going!

EXTREME RULES - 25TH APRIL, 2010
JOHN CENA vs. BATISTA

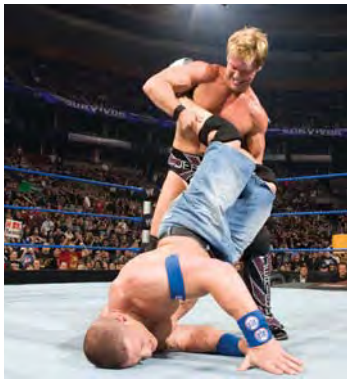
If there's one thing that John Cena does well, it's stipulation matches. You name it, he's tried it. And in another of his historic Last Man Standing title defences in 2010, he beat a raging Batista. And how do you contain an animalistic fury like Batista's? Cena tied him to the ring post with duct tape - that pretty much did the trick!

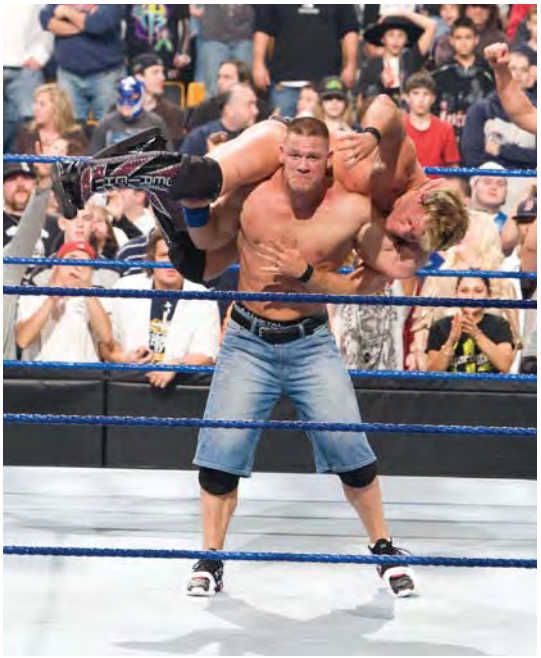
BACKLASH - 26TH APRIL, 2009
JOHN CENA vs. EDGE

When Edge and John Cena first clashed they were at an interesting point in their careers - Edge was the tag veteran going solo and Cena the new breakout star. By 2009, they had established themselves as two remarkable legends and their rivalry was proof of that. This Last Man Standing match was carnage and ended with Cena leaving on a stretcher, as Edge beat him thanks to interference from The Big Show.

WRESTLEMANIA 22 - 2ND APRIL, 2006
JOHN CENA vs. TRIPLE H

Both ring entrances for this battle have gone down in history: Triple H made his way to the squared circle in full on barbarian king regalia and John Cena entered in Chicago gangster mode. An evenly-matched bout saw both men digging deep to out smart the other and finally it was the STF that won the day as Triple H tapped out.





SURVIVOR SERIES - 23RD NOVEMBER, 2008
JOHN CENA vs. CHRIS JERICHO

Both of these men are formidable in the ring and on the mic, and by *Survivor Series 2008*, their rivalry had lasted years. Don't forget, it was John Cena who forced Chris Jericho to leave WWE in 2005 after beating him in a "You're Fired!" match. Y2J was champion heading into this match and dominated many of the early exchanges, but Cena continued to find a way back and an Attitude Adjustment sealed the deal on another title win for The Champ.

RINGSIDE

Your definitive guide to the hardest-hitting, highest-flying, most electrifying, must-see action in the WWE Universe!

1/8, SMACKDOWN

BIG MOUTH OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

The Miz starts yapping, doesn't stop (ever!)

Sunglasses indoors? Check. Hand sanitiser at the ready? Check. Obnoxious red pants—suited for the yacht club—worn with no socks? Check plus! The Miz's recent move to Hollywood has certainly brought out a new level of loathesome behaviouxr. But he's still got the same old mouth on him. And this time he used it and the *SmackDown* announcer's table as his pulpit to throw Dolph Ziggler off his always A-game during his match against Alberto Del Rio. The Show Off ate a Cross Armbreaker and the loss thanks to that distraction. Guess that's payback for losing "The Battle of Cleveland."

By **THE WWE MAGAZINE STAFF**
Photography by **RICH FREEDA**

10
Number of chairs Cesaro Superplexed Dean Ambrose onto during their No DQ Match on *SmackDown*.

25/7, **SMACKDOWN**

HARDEST HARDCORE MATCH

Cesaro, Ambrose nearly tear the house down in No Disqualification rematch

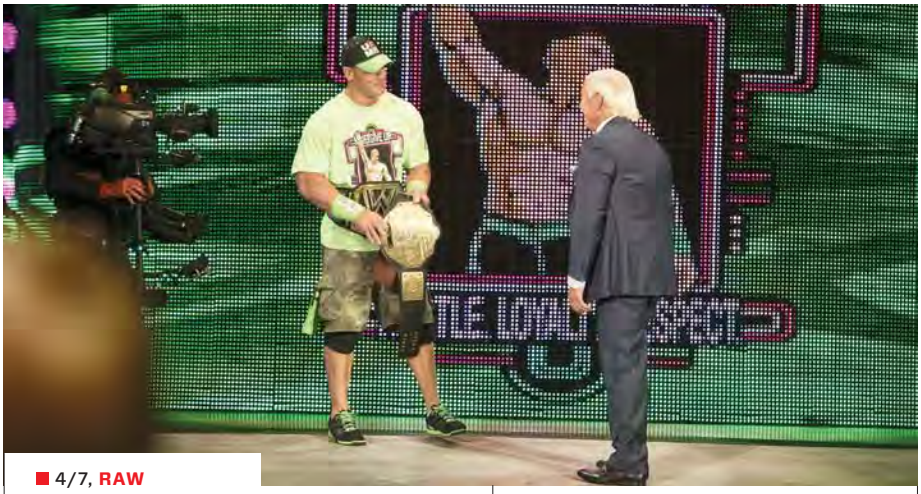
DEAM AMBROSE HASN'T BEEN IN THE RIGHT FRAME OF MIND LATELY. The unstable Ambrose proved his deranged ways against Cesaro when he ended the heated bout with a chairshot to The King of Swing. But it wasn't a cheap way out of the match—Ambrose just likes to dish out, and battle through, pain. He proved it later in the week in the No DQ rematch, surving a Superplex onto a pile of chairs to roll Cesaro for a pinfall.

20/7, BATTLEGROUND

TAG TEAM MATCH OF THE YEAR

The Usos fearless in the face of The Wyatt Family, retain Tag Team Titles

THE USOS PROVED TWO SPLASHES WERE BETTER THAN ONE to finish their hard-fought 2-out-of-3 Falls Match against Luke Harper & Erick Rowan. The early goings featured a brutal Harper big boot and a rollup by Jey Uso to even the bout at 1-1. After superkicks, chaotic dives to the outside, clotheslines and powerslams, the reigning Tag Team Champions finally showed they had no fear when it came to the terrifying Wyatt Family.



4/7, RAW

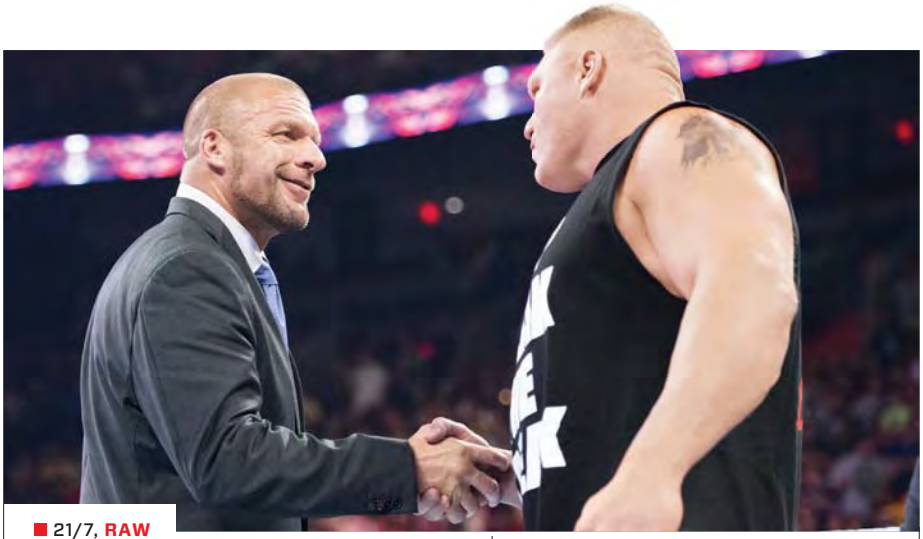
SHOW OF RESPECT OF THE YEAR

John Cena presents Ric Flair with World Heavyweight Championship

AFTER CLINCHING his 15th World Title—one shy of Ric Flair's fabled 16—John Cena humbly handed the gold to The Nature Boy in appreciation of Flair's decades of stylin' and profilin'.

"THE MAN THAT'S GOING TO BE THE MAN IN WWE IS MY MAN: JOHN CENA. WOOOO!"

—RIC FLAIR, MAKING HIS PREDICTION FOR WHO WILL STAND TALL AT WWE BATTLEGROUND; 4/7, RAW



21/7, RAW

BAD IDEA OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Triple H deals with the devil in Paul Heyman and Brock Lesnar

SO THIS WAS PLAN C THEN? It was only two summers ago that The Beast Incarnate was breaking The Game's arm and now he's shaking his hand. Never trust a Paul Heyman Guy!

"AT THIS MOMENT MY CLIENT HEREBY OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES HIS INTENTION TO CONQUER JOHN CENA..."

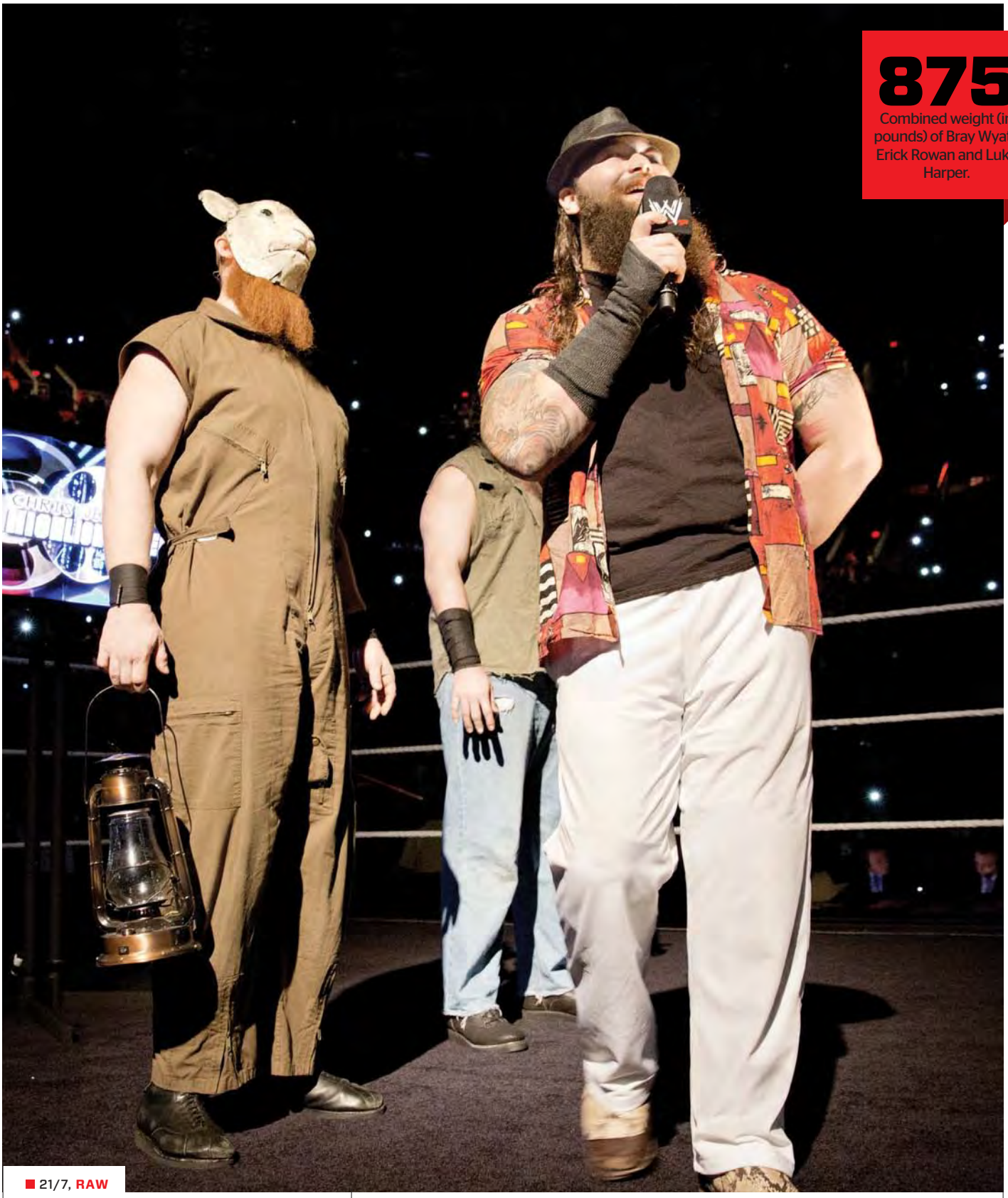
—PAUL HEYMAN ON BROCK LESNAR'S QUEST FOR THE TITLE; 21/7, RAW

20/7, BATTLEGROUND

BEST MOVES OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Cesaro & Kofi Kingston rewrite the playbook on Battle Royals

WHILE NEITHER KOFI KINGSTON NOR Cesaro left the Battleground Battle Royal with the vacant Intercontinental Championship around their waist (thanks to that sneaky Miz), they certainly redefined what offense and defence means in such a match. Kofi managed to stave off elimination by landing on Big E's shoulders, but The Swiss Superman was able to suplex him directly back into the ring. This is a must re-watch!



875
Combined weight (in pounds) of Bray Wyatt, Erick Rowan and Luke Harper.

21/7, **RAW**

TAKEOVER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Bray Wyatt attacks Chris Jericho in the locker room, then hosts "Highlight Reel"

WE KNEW BRAY WYATT COULD carry a tune (albeit a very creep one), but we had no idea that he'd be such an entertaining talk show host. Earlier in the evening, The Wyatt Family descended upon Chris Jericho in the lockerroom. This certainly wasn't one of those situations that "talking it out" would solve. Instead, Wyatt hit one of the most brutal Sister Abigails on Y2J, creating the need for a special "Highlight Reel" guest host.

2,033
Mark Henry's record weight-lifting total when he left his Texas high school.

4/8, RAW

HOMECOMING OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Henry does Texas proud in return by crushing Sooner Sandow

MAKING A LONG-AWAITED RETURN to his home state of Texas, Mark Henry came out with a bright T-shirt and even brighter attitude to commemorate the occasion. Throwing up the signature "Hook 'em Horns" on the ropes, Henry made quick work of opponent Damien Sandow in the good and well-respected name of the Longhorns. The crowd ate it up, and poor Sandow ate a World's Strongest Slam.

28/7, RAW

RKO OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Randy Orton slams Reigns through a table in an RKO heard around the world

THE VIPER WAS FURIOUS when he received word from Triple H that "as long as Roman Reigns is in the picture, Randy Orton won't get a shot." The multi-time World Champion wasn't too happy with the news, and it was Reigns who ultimately ended up bearing the brunt of his fury. Interrupting the former Shield member's match with The Big Red Monster, Orton grabbed his adversary and gave him the RKO of a lifetime.

OCTOBER IN WWE

Turn here first to find out when the Superstars will be in your town next!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1		3 WWE LIVE EVENT Toronto, ON 7:30pm	4 WWE LIVE EVENT Providence, RI 7:30pm WWE LIVE EVENT Trenton, NJ 7:30pm
5 WWE LIVE EVENT Bridgeport, CT 5pm WWE LIVE EVENT Allentown, PA 5pm	6 RAW Brooklyn, NY 7:30pm BATTLEGROUND DVD available now!	7 SMACKDOWN Philadelphia, PA 7pm	8	9	10 WWE LIVE EVENT Kuala Lumpur, MY 7pm	11 WWE LIVE EVENT Kuala Lumpur, MY 7pm WWE LIVE EVENT Macon, GA 7:30pm
12 WWE LIVE EVENT Savannah, GA 5pm	13 RAW Atlanta, GA 7:30pm JOHN CENA'S GREATEST RIVALRIES DVD	14 SMACKDOWN Birmingham, AL 6:45pm	15	16	17 WWE LIVE EVENT Montreal, QC 7:30pm	18 WWE LIVE EVENT Quebec City, QC 7:30pm WWE LIVE EVENT Mexico City, MX 8pm
19 WWE LIVE EVENT Topeka, KS 5pm WWE LIVE EVENT Monterrey, MX 5pm	20 RAW Kansas City, MO 6:30pm	21 SMACKDOWN Wichita, KS 6:45pm	22	23 NXT Orlando, FL 6:30pm	24	25
26 HELL IN A CELL Dallas, TX 6:30pm	27 RAW San Antonio, TX 6:30pm SUMMERSLAM DVD available now!	28 SMACKDOWN Houston, TX 6:45pm	29	30	31	

FIND WHAT FITS YOU

LOG ON NOW

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28/7, RAW

SLAP OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Stephanie McMahon blasts Brie Bella

AFTER SHEDDING SOME TEARS Stephanie McMahon acquiesced to her first match in WWE in more than 10 only if Brie Bella would drop all criminal charges against her. Mrs. Daniel Bryan thought she finally had the upperhand until The Authority's right hand gave her "five across the eyes." Ouch!

"THERE'S JUST ONE MORE THING I WANT...I WANT A MATCH AT SUMMERSLAM...THE MATCH I WANT IS AGAINST YOU!"

—BRIE BELLA ISSUING HER FINAL DEMANDS TO STEPHANIE MCMAHON; 28/7, RAW

5

The number of Divas to hold the Divas Championship for more than 200 days!

21/7, RAW

BACKSTABBER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Paige turns on AJ Lee (You can't spell "frenemy" without enemy!)

FIRST PAIGE MADE HER WWE DEBUT and defeated AJ Lee for her Divas Championship the night after *WrestleMania 30*. Months later, AJ made her surprise return and turned the tables on Paige by regaining her title. And then they decided to become friends! It was only a matter of time before jealousy would tear these BFWs (Best Friends for Weeks) apart. We'll try to be impartial, but we'll just say this...Paige started it!

MIKE MARQUES (3); CRAIG AMBROSIO (3); RICH FREEDA (2); DAVID GUNN (2); JOHN GIAMUNDO

GENERAL COMPETITION TERMS & CONDITIONS
All prize-winning competition entries must be received between 12:01 AM on 30/9/2014, when the competitions begins, and 11:59 PM on1/12/2014, when the competitions ends. Only one entry per person. Open only to residents of the UK. If you are under 18 years of age, at the time of entry, please get the permission of a parent or guardian before entering. By entering any competition in *WWE Magazine* you consent to being added to our mailing list, meaning that Loaded Media Ltd. and it's partners may contact you regarding relevant products or services and research via email. You can opt out by clicking 'unsubscribe' on any of the emails you are sent. Loaded Media Ltd. will collect your personal information to process your entry and gain a better understanding of the readership. All winners will be notified by email within seven days of the competition closing date.

P73 *BATTLEGROUND 2014* DVD COMPETITION. NO PAYMENT OR PURCHASE REQUIRED. Void where prohibited. To enter the competition email us at **comps@wwe-mag.com** with '*Battlground 2014 DVD competition*' in the subject line. Entry requires that you send us your full name, age and postal address within your email. Five (5) prize winners will be randomly drawn from amongst all eligible entrants, and they will each win one (1) copy of *Battleground 2014* on DVD. Please also read the GENERAL COMPETITION TERMS & CONDITIONS.

PPV PHOTO SPECIAL

+ ALL OF THE ACTION AND RESULTS FROM WWE'S MAIN EV

■ 17/08/2014, LOS ANGELES, CA

The August heat of *SummerSlam* normally makes for some intense matches and this PPV was certainly no exception. With almost all of the major titles on the line and some bitter personal grudges to settle, it was a night to remember.

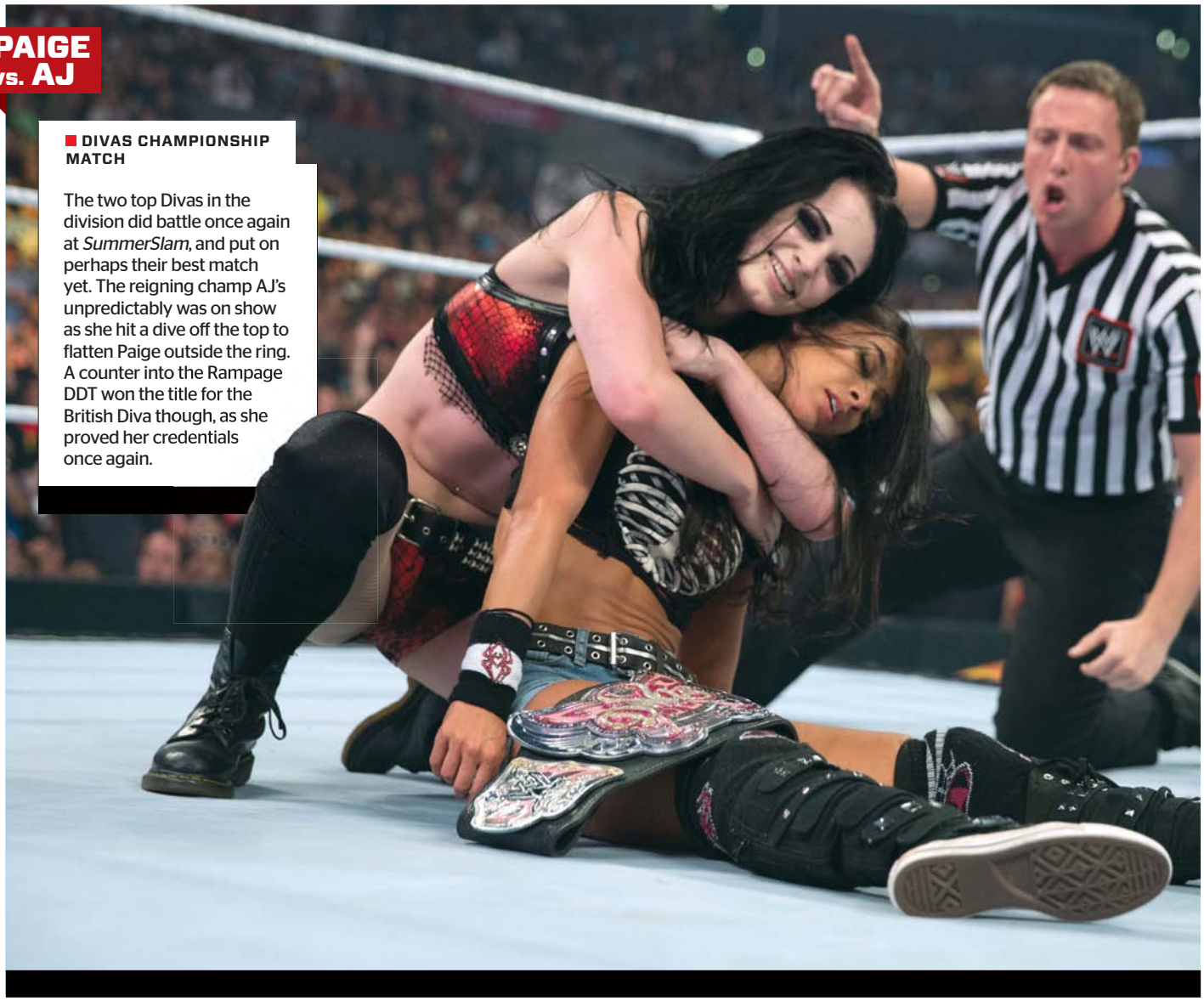
JOHN CENA

THE MIZ vs. DOLPH ZIGGLER

INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

Dolph Ziggler sidestepped some early offence from The Miz, but that was nothing compared to the sidestepping The Miz did to avoid any damage to his face. Both men showed their incredible skill in a fast-paced match. After the champion bounced back from a Fameasser to hit the Skull Crushing Finale, Ziggler ducked a low boot and hit a Zig Zag to win. We had our first new champion of the night.

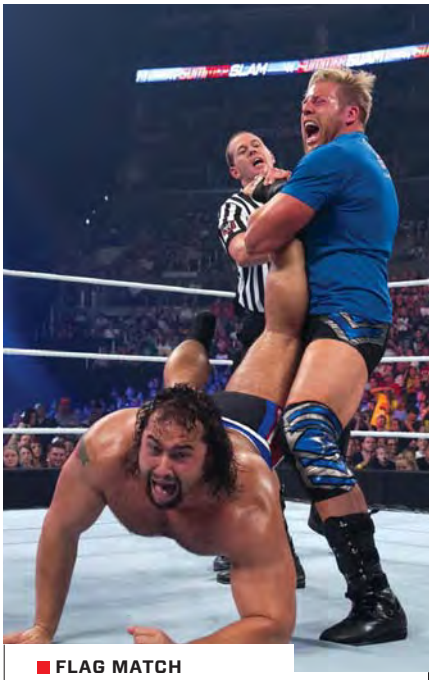
PAIGE vs. AJ



DIVAS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

The two top Divas in the division did battle once again at *SummerSlam*, and put on perhaps their best match yet. The reigning champ AJ's unpredictably was on show as she hit a dive off the top to flatten Paige outside the ring. A counter into the Rampage DDT won the title for the British Diva though, as she proved her credentials once again.

RUSEV vs. JACK SWAGGER



FLAG MATCH

Yet another terrific rivalry that thrilled the WWE Universe at *SummerSlam* was this patriotic contest. When the gutsy Jack Swagger refused to tap out to the Accolade, the battle-scarred Rusev kept it locked in anyway until his American opponent passed out.

DEAN AMBROSE vs. SETH ROLLINS

LUMBERJACK MATCH

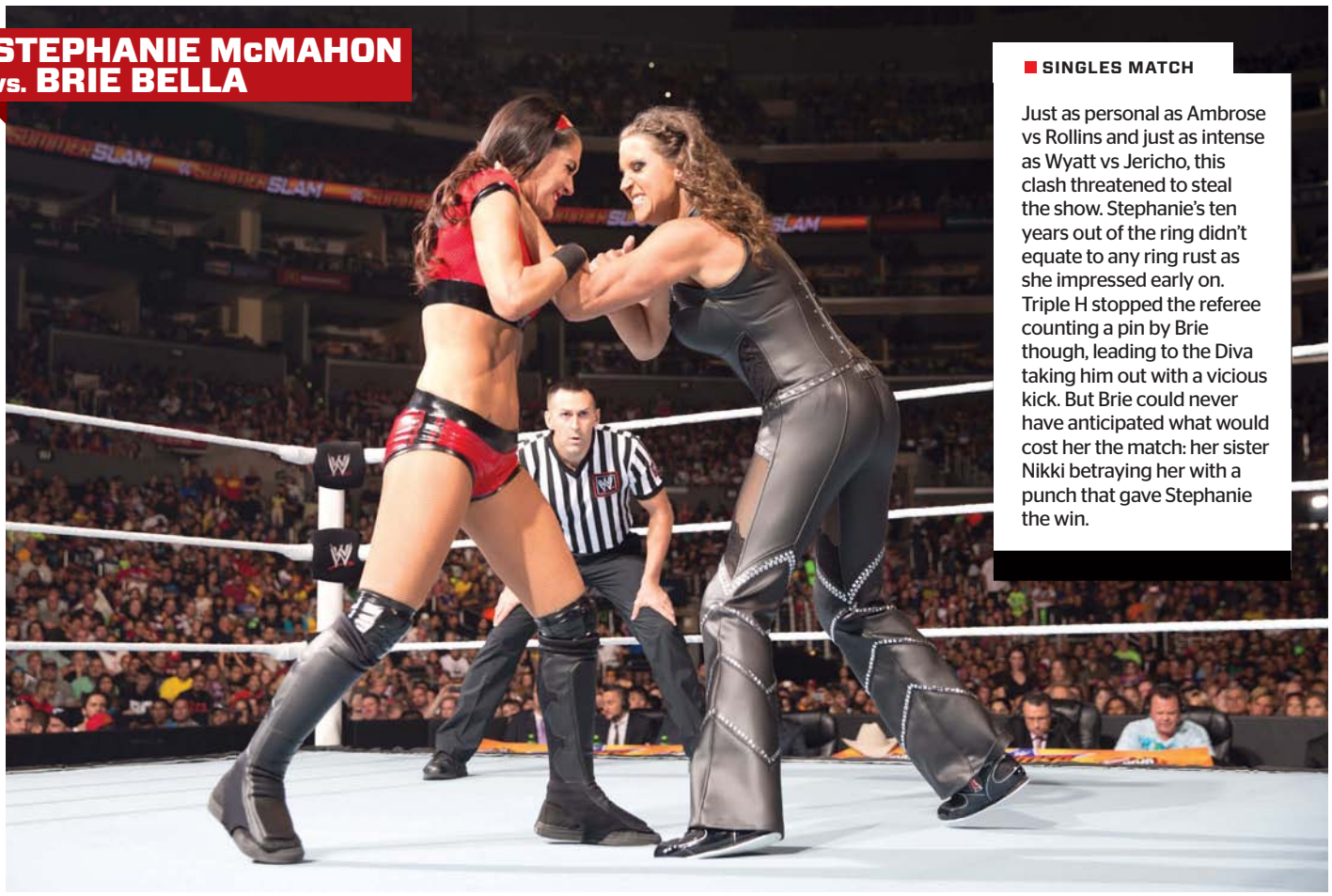
How do you reinvent a stipulation that's as old as the hills? You throw the explosive chemistry of Seth Rollins and Dean Ambrose into the mix, that's how! The lumberjacks became a landing pad for Rollins as he was superplexed to the outside, then the battle went into the crowd but as chaos erupted in the ring, Rollins capitalised. He hit his former Shield buddy with the *Money in the Bank* case to take him out and get the three count.

BRAY WYATT vs. CHRIS JERICHO

SINGLES MATCH

The storied veteran and the enigmatic newcomer. Over the summer months, they've brought out the best in each other, and with fans cheering for both by the end of this encounter, it was clear they'd done the same again. It took two Sister Abigails to take Jericho out for good, and the brutal Bray continues to make waves a year after his PPV debut.

STEPHANIE McMAHON vs. BRIE BELLA



SINGLES MATCH

Just as personal as Ambrose vs Rollins and just as intense as Wyatt vs Jericho, this clash threatened to steal the show. Stephanie's ten years out of the ring didn't equate to any ring rust as she impressed early on. Triple H stopped the referee counting a pin by Brie though, leading to the Diva taking him out with a vicious kick. But Brie could never have anticipated what would cost her the match: her sister Nikki betraying her with a punch that gave Stephanie the win.

JOHN CENA vs. BROCK LESNAR

WWE WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Paul Heyman promised the WWE Universe that his client Brock Lesnar would be more aggressive against John Cena than we had seen him before. He was correct. Suplex followed suplex followed suplex as Lesnar unleashed the beast within. The courageous Cena almost managed to fight his way back into it but even then, he couldn't wipe the sadistic smile off the challenger's face. A first F5 in the opening exchanges was followed by one after 15 minutes to end the match and crown a new champion. Who would dare challenge Brock after this performance?

ROMAN REIGNS vs. RANDY ORTON

SINGLES MATCH

We anticipated a relentless onslaught from these men and that's exactly what we got. Roman Reigns has been on a roll the past few months and even a sickening RKO near the end of this duel couldn't keep him down. He evaded the Skull Punt and hit a Spear to level Randy Orton.

A SMOOCH FOR THE 50 STATES

Step behind the scenes to catch Superstars & Divas in rare moments, like when a Real American takes a moment for a kiss before snapping ankles.

Little can get the WWE Universe more pumped than a good, old-fashioned "U.S.A.!" chant. Foreign Superstars despise it. Patriotic ones crave it. For a "Real American" like Jack Swagger, though, that cheer has been background music for every match in his six-year career.

Before he steps in front of that wild, heated crowd, the veteran Swagger keeps things peaceful with a kiss.

"It's a warmup I do before every match. At the end of [my warmup] to calm myself down and prepare myself mentally, I kiss my arm. I feel like I'm kissing America."

Since his 2008 *ECW* debut, Swagger morphed from a spiky-haired boy-next-door into a former World Champion known for always welcoming new challenges. But when Swagger suffered through a bit of a rough patch in 2012, Zeb Colter helped to reignite that fire.

Swagger has found success with tag team partners, a "Cougar" and even a "Soaring Eagle" mascot in his corner, but having Colter at ringside gives him a special feeling of American honour.

"I walk out to the ring every night with a war hero beside me and I'm damn proud of it."

Photography by **LÉA GIRARD RIVECCIO**

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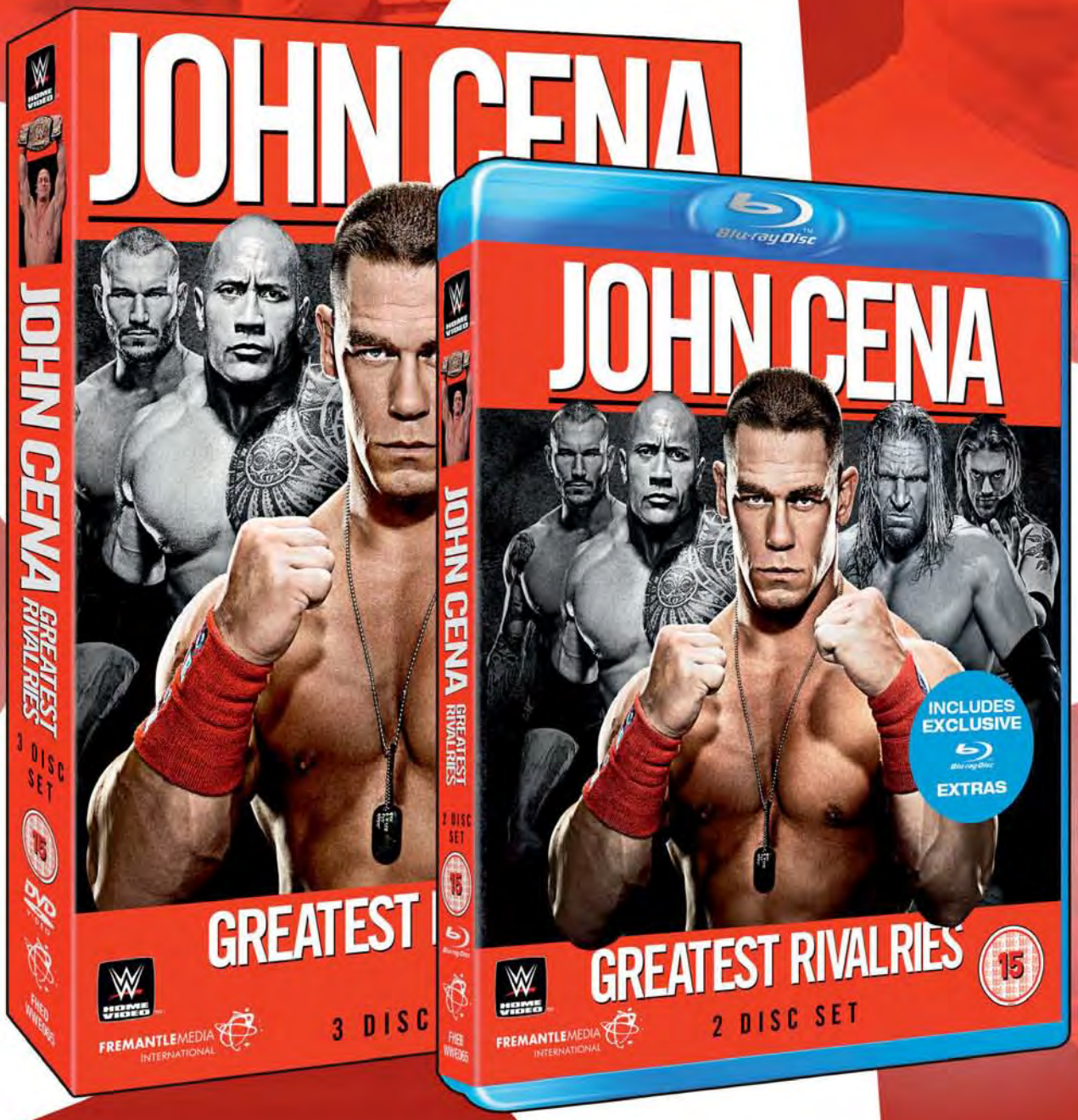
LET'S GO CENA!



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